Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Allied With Lindbergh

ABOUT the most unusual thing in American history—and one of the most disturbing—is that Lindbergh and others of the America First Committee, have acquired a Negro ally. Over the signatures of J. Finley Wilson, grand exalted ruler of the national organization of Elks, and Perry W. Howard, Republican national committeeman for Mississippi, who is also general counsel for the Elks, a letter went out this week calling upon colored Americans to join the America First Committee.

The Elk leaders have set up the "Charles A. Young Division" of the America First Committee, and have established headquarters in Washington. Associated on the general committee with Messrs. Wilson and Howard are several important churchmen, some business and professional men and several individuals who have in the past been actively associated with national politics.

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The principal spearheads of the America First Committee are Col. Charles A. Lindbergh, Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana; Senator Bennett C. Clark, of Missouri, Gen. Hugh S. Johnson, Gen. Robert E. Wood, Irvin S. Cobb, John T. Flyn, Handford MacNider and William R. Castle, names familiar in political circles. On the literature of the America First Committee the names of Senators Wheeler and Clark do not appear, but the names of Mrs. Wheeler and Mrs. Clark are listed.

The committee has a name that is misleading when all the factors of the present national emergency are considered in their true light, and a name that is, therefore, a misnomer. Shortly after Germany attacked Russia Col. Lindbergh, chief platform man for the Committee, gave the Nazis a clean bill of health as compared to the Soviets, revealing his interest in Hitler. He might have denounced both Stalin and Hitler and left it there. But he denounced the former and failed to find anything extraordinarily bad in the latter.

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It is a great pity that Messrs. Wilson and Howard and their associates have selected the name of the late Col. Charles A. Young, who had a distinguished record in the United States Army, to identify their branch or division of the America First Committee.

The American Negro has sustained an unsullied record for loyalty to the American flag. No Negro has ever been known to betray his country. No Negro has ever been found among saboteurs. It would be extremely unfortunate now in this grave hour of national emergency if Negroes should be identified with any subversive movement. Granting all Americans the right of free speech, there are grave doubts that this right is being exercised with due diligence and patriotism by members of the America First Committee. Negroes just cannot afford to be listed among those who are openly or under cover obstructing the nation's preparations for national defense. It is not wise in time of national danger—and only six months after a national election—for a private citizen of influence to circulate around the country proclaiming to mass audiences the need for a new national leadership and offering to furnish that leadership. Yet, Col. Lindbergh did this in the Name of the America First Committee less than two months ago. This is revolutionary.

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No doubt Messrs. Wilson and Howard and their associates are in earnest about the thing they are doing. No one has had any reasons heretofore to question their patriotism. But we believe they are being grieviously misled. We believe that they are being misled by shrewd politicians. Behind the whole thing one can see the hand of a brazen inter-party group. We do not believe that they want to endanger their country's sovereignty nor the liberties which they now enjoy, but it is possible for them to gravely endanger these through the type of campaign the America First Committee is conducting against the present administration's program for national defense.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

NEGRO SUPPORT FOR AMERICA FIRST.

A colored people's division of the America First organization is being formed under the leadership of J. Finley Wilson. The movement ought to have a pronounced success. There is no divided national loyalty among the Negroes of this country. They are Americans from 'way back, with no ties which bind them to one or another of the European belligerents. If any group in this country can view our international relations with an eye solely to the welfare of our country it should be the Negroes. With the fewest exceptions their ancestors have been in this country for 150 years or more.

In a letter addressed to prominent colored people in various parts of the country Mr. Wilson has called attention to the peril which war presents to all the minority groups in America. The warning is a timely one. It is no accident that the Ku Klux arose after the last war. The klan was born of the disillusionment, the economic distress, and the social unrest which were the direct consequences of the war. The race riots at about the same time in Chicago and other cities had much the same origin. If our country gets into the present war the same sort of consequences are to be expected, but the scale of intolerance may be expected to rise far higher.

We started the last war with a negligible national debt. Today the debt approximates 50 billion dollars. In the last war the government spent something like 40 billion dollars. Congress has already appropriated more than that amount for armament and that is only the beginning. If we get into this war we can hardly expect to emerge with a debt of less than 200 billion dollars. Inflation or repudiation or both would follow. Hitler and his movement of intolerance followed inflation in Germany because the middle classes which might have checked his rise had been wiped out and were without hope.

Great wars lead to great depressions. If we get into this war it will be the greatest of all wars and may well be followed by the deepest of all depressions. In such circumstances the minority groups always suffer the greatest hardships. Their people are the first to be fired and the last to be hired.

The Negroes of this country have no connection with Europe and can look at our problem with clear eyes. The Negroes, like all of us, have an immense stake in the preservation of peace. As Mr. Wilson well said, war will imperil the position of all minority groups and set the country back 50 years. He has reason and experience on his side.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

The Globe Trotter

By Cliff Mackay

Black Lindberghs

INTERESTING, YET sad, to this writer was the lineup of "big names" on a letter announcing the formation of a "Charles A. Young Division" of the America First Committee, which reached the desk this week.

That "America First" is liable to fool you unless you are aware of the activities being conducted by the group bearing this misnomer. This group, whose loudest and most prolific spokesmen are Charles A. Lindbergh and Senator Burton K. Wheeler, is to all intents and purposes dedicated to the underhanded proposition of knifing the foreign policy outlined by President Roosevelt.

There are some who would go so far as to say that Messrs. Wheeler and Lindbergh are actually more sympathetic to Hitler and his ways than they are to the United States and the democratic way. And their utterances and recent actions would tend to bear this out.

EXTREMELY PUZZLING ACTION

That's why it becomes all the more puzzling how Negroes, who call themselves leaders, can consent to lend themselves as tools of a crowd, whose members are working so ardently for the man, whose life is dedicated to crushing the only philosophy of government in the world, which gives members of their race a chance.

Look over this list of names and weep over the short-sightedness that many of our group who try to lead seem to possess: J. Finley Wilson, grand exalted ruler of the Elks; Perry W. Howard, Republican national commiteeman from Mississippi; Sidney R. Redmond, president, National Bar Association; Dr. W. H. Jernagin, president, National BYPU Congress; Judge Edward W. Henry, Philadelphia; Marse Calloway, realtor and political leader of Maryland; Bishops J. A. Gregg and David Sims of the AME church; Bishop A. P. Shaw of the Methodist church; Bishop W. J. Wall of the AME Zion church and many others.

Those of you who are astute students of politics, no doubt have already noticed the one thing which every member of this group, that would hang onto Lindbergh's coat tails, agree upon.

ALL AGAINST ROOSEVELT

That's right. They're all members of that close-knit, unbending old-line Republican circle. Everyone of them in 1936 was against President Roosevelt.

four years later in 1940 they were still against Roosevelt and were out preaching the doctrine of Wendell Willkie.

Looking ahead, you see which way the wind will blow in 1944. The Republican bosses have cracked their whips, and the darker satellites are rapidly falling into line. The Republicans will probably put Lindbergh up as their candidate on the platform that he "will keep us out of war," that is if we are not already in by that time. In that case Lindbergh will become the great missionary of peace.

Backed by unlimited funds, the American First Committee, emerging now as the child of the Republican Party, doubtless had little difficulty in lining up this crowd of black Lindberghs. The job ahead of selling this Hitler-endorsed program to their followers, though, is certainly not one to be envied.

KNOW HITLER'S DOCTRINE

Negroes to well know what their fate will be in a Hitler-controlled world. The Austrian paperhanger has clearly stated his low opinion of all human beings whose faces are black. How could anyone forget his prize declaration that "the freeing of the American slaves was one of the collossal blunders of modern civilization"?

Who is it that hasn't heard his description of Negroes as "half-apes," his oft-repeated intention of denying to the world's black population a chance to obtain an education, of enjoying any of the other things that make life worth living?

And yet Messrs. Howard and Wilson, et al, would lead their followers down the road that would carry them inevitably into the arms of this avowed hater of Negroes.

The writer finds it hard to believe that these leaders whose good work in the past is unquestioned, are actually serious about this "America First" business.

SHOULD REALIZE CONSEQUENCES

Surely they can realize the dire consequences of this not so subtle attempt to sabotage this nation's foreign policy. Never in history have black men been led, by word or deed, to betray their country. This is certainly no time to mar that spotless record.

The Republicans have already been charged with being the party of the appeasers. This charge is supported by the fact that most of the big business men, who are quite willing to do business with Hitler, are members of that party.

Partisan politics, however, should be laid aside during this emergency when both country and race are threatened. The writer chooses to believe that Messrs. Howard and Wilson have just been misled, that they actually do not believe the type of propaganda that Lindbergh is expounding; and that they will quickly see the error of their ways and repudiate this obnoxious lineup.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

BETWEEN THE LINES

Negro Wheelers

By DEAN GORDON B. HANCOCK
FOR ANP

WHEELERISM IS the mill-stone about the neck of this nation as it struggles to save itself from sinking upon the sea of unpreparedness. Within and without our great country is threatened with disaster. We had hoped and prayed that so long as ugly "Wheelerism" has brought itself into such disrepute and had so seriously handicapped the country in its defense efforts Negroes might be spared the odium thereof. We had fervently hoped that the Negro race might not produce a Wheeler or a Lindbergh upon whom the coming generations will doubtless heap reproach for the ignoble part they are playing in a tragic drama.

Wheelerism is the personification of the America First Committee and shows it at its best. It is generally known that the America First Committee is playing directly into the hands of Nazism in this country. That there are some fine men and women associated with the committee does not alter the fact that it is pro-Nazi. It is possible for even good men and women to be mislead and to become misleaders The strikers and sabateurs and bundists and defeatists and "America Firsters" are all committed to the same task, and that is, paralyzing this nation in its defense efforts. Keep out of war at any cost is about the substance of their contentions.

SEE NO THREAT

They see no threat from Hitlerism; they learn no lesson from the sweep of Hitlerism that has destroyed nation after nation in Europe; they see no danger in treating with Hitler even though the tragedy of national slavery in Europe sounds stentorian voices of warning. The America Firsters disdain the idea of sending their sons to become slaves such as they will become under Hitlerism. The mask has been snatched from the face of the America First committee and its workings are too generally known to need recounting here.

But when a Negro America First Committee puts in its appearance, it is disconcerting and disappointing.

We had hoped that with their fine record of patriotism Negroes might be spared the odium which the America First Committee is fast bringing upon itself. Not only is there a Negro America First Committee but it is an appendage of the national committee which features Lindbergh, Senator Wheeler's wife and Hugh Johnson. In other words there is a "Jim-Crow" America First Committee which is all-Negro, as distinct from the national committee which is all-white

AGAINST WHITE

It is doubtful whether Lindbergh would be a member of a committee that had Negroes for his common associates. Lindbergh's anti-Negro attitude is so generally acknowledged by Negroes themselves that on general principles we oppose him. When we read the roster of the Negro America First Committee we are tremendously impressed but we are more impressed by the names not included.

It is generally conceded that the America First Committee is composed of die-hard Republicans who are resolved to "go down swinging;" the Negro America First Committee is also packed with Republicans with J. Finley Wilson Republican of Republicans as chairman, and Perry Howard an incurable Republican as secretary. After scanning the names of the Negro committee with two staunch republicans as its ranking officials we became suspicious and turned to Who's Who in Colored America to get a line on the political affiliation of the committee and of the 18 members listed as the general committee we found that all were bitter-end Republicans except Bishop Sims who is listed as an "independent" and all Negro independents are Republicans under their skins.

A REPUBLICAN ORGANIZATION

It is safe then to say that this Negro America First Committee, is like its parent organization, a Republican organization bent on discrediting the democratic administration. Wheelerism is Republicanism under another name and so is America First Committeeism. The plea that the committee is making is the same made by the demoted Lindbergh. It is the same made by Wheeler and General Hugh Johnson. It is the plea that Republicans everywhere make in their efforts to stem the tide of democracy that has swept this nation for a decade.

We are forced to conclude that a Negro America First Committee is nothing but a tail to fly the kite of the white America First Committee, and this is merely a tail to fly the kite of defeated republicanism. Negro America First Committee is merely to scratch the back of the white America First Committee. Can Negroes afford to play such ignoble role?

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

AMERICA FIRST SAYS RACE IS NOT ISSUE

Denies Anti-Semitism, Asserting That Interventionists, Not Lindbergh, Brought It Up

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

CHICAGO, Sept. 24—Denying charges that Charles A. Lindbergh is anti-Semitic, officials of the America First Committee issued a statement today deploring "the injection of the race issue into the discussion of war or peace."

"It is the interventionists who have done this," the statement said, and charged that "behind a smoke screen of groundless charges this nation is being led to war in violation of the Constitution of the United States."

Mr. Lindbergh asserted recently in a speech in Des Moines that three groups, the British, the Jewish and the Roosevelt Administration, were mainly responsible for edging the United States to the verge of war.

The committee's statement, which bore no signatures, read as follows:

"Ever since the nation-wide effort to keep America out of war began the interventionists have sought to hide the real issue by flinging false charges at the America First Committee and at every leader who has spoken out against our entry into the European conflict. The present attack on Colonel Lindbergh is merely another case in point.

"Colonel Lindbergh and his fellow-members of the America First Committee are not anti-Semitic. We deplore the injection of the race issue into the discussion of war or peace. It is the interventionists who have done this.

"America First, on the other hand, has invited men and women of every race, religion and national origin to join this committee, provided only that they are patriotic citizens who put the interests of their country ahead of any other nation. We repeat that invitation.

"At least 80 per cent of the American people oppose our entry into the war. The America First Committee has supplied to these millions of citizens a leadership which has thus far helped to avert disaster. Consequently, the aim of the war-makers is to destroy the America First Committee.

"Behind a smoke screen of groundless charges this nation is being led to war in violation of the Constitution of the United States.

"There is but one real issue—the issue of war. From this issue we will not be diverted. We will carry on the fight until it is won."

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

THE SPIRIT OF K.K.K. AND COL. LINDBERGH

Charles A. Lindbergh is the center of a bitter controversy that threatens to split the ranks of that curious aggregation known as America First Committee. His recent Des Moines, Iowa, speech in which he raised the racial issue by asserting that the Jews were pressing this country into war, was so unpalatable that even the Hearst papers were goaded to condemn it as "unwise, unpatriotic and un-American."

It must be remembered that Mr. Lindbergh's utterances on our government's foreign policy fairly represent the views held by such mountebanks as Senators Burton K. Wheeler, Gerald P. Nye and a substantial number of the America First Committee members. The Trans-Atlantic flier has spoken so many times under the auspices of this committee that he is regarded—correctly so—as its official spokesman. It is therefore natural to assume that his remarks, however "unpatriotic and un-American" have the endorsement of that notorious group which he represents.

In injecting the racial issue, Mr. Lindbergh was intentionally bringing into the open one of the major planks in the platform of the America First Committee,—a platform which is meant to sow the seed of discontent and disunity in order to frustrate all efforts toward national preparedness and effective defense.

If Mr. Lindbergh and his unholy committee were sincere in their opposition to American intervention in the European war, their first and strongest argument would be to insist that America set its own house in order, and that the democratic processes which provide justification for interference in foreign conflicts be made applicable here first in the interest of the countless minorities that people this nation. Next, Mr. Lindbergh and his cohorts would point to unchecked segregation in the U. S. army and in military camps, to maltreatment of Negro troops and to discrimination in the defense industries as being inconsistent and at variance with the pattern of democracy that this government is attempting to establish in all Christendom.

But no such lofty aims and humanitarian ideals agitate the conscience of the leadership of this committee. We believe Mr. Lindbergh has the Ku Klux Klan mentality, and that the other members of the America First Committee are motivated solely by a burning desire to confuse and confound the popular democratic will in order better to prepare the way for a triumphant Fascist order in America.

The kindest wish we can express for Col. Lindbergh is that he might be allowed to rest harmlessly beside his plane—the "Spirit of St. Louis"—which is now a museum piece at the Smithsonian Institute.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

WILSON DRAWS OUT OF GROUP; HOWARD STAYS

Take Opposite Slants As Result Of Lindbergh's Attack On Jews

WASHINGTON, D. C. — For a long period of years, J. Finley Wilson, grand exalted ruler, and Perry W. Howard, grand legal adviser, have apparently been in step so far as matters relating to colored Elkdom were concerned, but when it comes to the American First committee which sponsors former Col. Charles E. Lindbergh's radio blasts against the New Deal, these two outstanding leaders of the Antlered Herd are on opposite sides of the fence.

This revelation was learned Saturday, following Col. Lindbergh's radio address in which he charged the administration with moving toward suspension of the 1942 elections, when Wilson resigned from the American First committee.

Was Chairman of Group

Wilson has been chairman of the Col. Charles Young branch of the committee here, while Howard is secretary. Previously, the exalted ruler had denounced Lindbergh for his American First committee-sponsored broadcast of September 11, in which the flier made anti-Semetic statements.

In a letter addressed to M. R. Hufty, national organizational director of the committee, and made public on Saturday, Wilson announced his resignation from the group because "I cannot allow myself or my organization to be drawn into giving aid and comfort to the twin brutes of Europe, Hitler and Mussolini."

His letter of resignation said in part:

"I am resigning from the committee because I cannot follow the views expressed by Col. Charles E Lindbergh. As a great flier, he once ruled the hearts of the American people. His recent expressions, however, in connection with his attitude toward the Jewish people, are not in keeping with the ideals of Americanism which I believe all really patriotic Americans should hold to dearly.

"As a representative of 13,000,000 unbleached Americans, I cannot allow myself or my organization, the I.B.P.O.E. of W., to be drawn into speaking disparagingly of another race of people."

Regrets Lindbergh Statement

When informed of his grand exalted ruler's actions, Howard asserted that his judgment had not been changed because of it.

"I am sorry," he asserted, "that Colonel Lindbergh made that unfortunate utterance. But, all Negroes do not quit the Democratic party because of what Cotton Ed Smith and others of similar views say.

"I am for defending America first" [illegible] "and am against sending soldiers to Europe, Asia or Africa, unless Congress declares war. I am deeply patriotic. But I do my own thinking and I suppose that free speech was intended for Negroes as well as whites."

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Elk Head Cools On Lindbergh

Denounces Hitler In Letter of Resignation

Special to Journal and Guide

WASHINGTON, D. C.—J. Finley Wilson, grand exalted ruler of the Improved, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World, has quit the chairmanship of the Charles Young Post, subsidiary of the America First Committee, formed here last July.

Mr. Wilson submitted his resignation this week to M. R. Hufty, director of organization in Chicago. Following is text of the Wilson letter to Hufty:

I herewith tender my resignation from the America First Committee, to take effect at once, and ask that my name be withdrawn from all of its literature.

I am resigning from the Committee because I cannot follow the views expressed by Col. Charles E. Lindbergh. As a great flier, he once ruled the hearts of the American people. His recent expressions however, in connection with his attitude toward the Jewish people, are not in keeping with the ideals of Americanism which I believe all really patriotic Americans should hold to dearly.

As a representative of thirteen million unbleached Americans I cannot allow myself or my organization, the Improved, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World, to be drawn into giving aid and comfort to the twin brutes of Europe, Hitler and Mussolini, by speaking disparagingly of another race of people.

It is not known as yet whether Perry W. Howard, general counsel of the Elks, who is secretary of the committee, will step down with his chief.

Associated also with Wilson in forming the colored subsidiary were Bishops J. A. Gregg, A. P. Shaw, W. J. Walls, David H. Sims, of the Methodist Church; Rev. Dr. Wililam H. Jernagin, of the Baptist Church, Henry Lincoln Johnson, president of the District Bar Association; Hobson R. Reynolds, formerly of the Pennsylvania legislature, and others of equal prominence.

The Northwest
Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

OCT 3 1941

AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

No, NO! NO!

Reader wants to know: "Are you a member of, or do you favor joining the America First Committee?"

NO; a thousand times NO! Since his Des Moines speech, we have no wish to belong to anything of which Lindberg is a member. That America First Committee has not given you a thought since they came into being. We agree that Mr. Matthews of the Afrro-American:

"He who is capable of despising and isolating one group for special condemnation is fully capable of taking the same stand against another." The logic of intolerance is inexorable. Any Negro who is anti-Semitic nourishes the viper of Hitlerism within his breats; any Jew who is anti-Negro is already on the road to Fascism and the same goes for all other groups.

Right-thinking Negro and white Americans will all agree with the words of Mr. Matthews: "Lindbergh must and should be silenced now, not because as an American citizen he is not entitled to freedom of speech, but because democracy cannot afford to permit the abuse of that cardinal principle by people and elements which by their very utterances show they are opposed to democracy itself. . . There can be no half-way measures on this issue. It is impossible for anybody to see good in Hitler and his system and also be a friend of democracy."

JEWS WILL DECORATE HIS GRAVE!

Centuries of persecution have done the same to Jewish wits that a hone does to a razor—to them German savagery is just another episode.

Hitler, like all his ilk, doesn't realize that you can murder men but not their ideas and most of the ideas which gave Germany her place in the sun were incubated in Jewish skulls.

The Jewish ideal is MARCH OF IDEAS, the German, a PARADE OF TANKS and today, in the Reich, a lieutenant outranks a philosopher.

You see many of them in court, but generally BEHIND the bar, not in FRONT of it.

AND THEY ARE ALWAYS REACHING DOWN TO PULL THE LESS SUCCESSFUL UP. (That's one reason why the word J-E-W doesn't begin with an N.) if you see what I mean.

Even in this country there is a certain amount of hatred for the Jewish brain. In a white Gentile they sometimes call the ability to think INTELLECTUALITY but the same power in a Jew is labeled cunning.

When they who now of culture loudly prate.—Pittsburgh Courier

Palmetto Leader
Columbia, S. C.

OCT 4 1941

CHARGES "AMERICA FIRST" MISLEADING AMERICAN NEGROES

The Harlem division of Fight for Freedom today charged America First with "misleading American Negroes by unauthorized use of Negro names in its campaign to prepare the way for a Hitlerized America."

J. G. Browne, prominent Iowa Negro Republican, told the Fight for Freedom group that he has "never given anyone permission to use my name in American First publicity. Browne's name was listed by American First as one of several prominent Negroes issuing a call to "colored American to join the American First Committee."

The Harlem Division of Fight for Freedom declared that "This will not surprise most American Negroes. We have never been mislead by the thin veneer of tolerance covering up the widespread campaign of racial intolerance preached by America First.

"We recognize that any hope for improvement of the condition of the American Negro will be impossible for all time to come if Hitler wins. The Negro and all Americans of every race and creed stand behind the foreign policy of our President and are pledged to 'all-out' support of the drive to smash Hitlerism."

When informed by Fight for Freedom that his name was being so used, Browne declared, "I am an American in absolute accord with the President of the United States foreign policy and his executive order to remove all discrimination from the defense work in the United States.

OCT 4 1941

"You are free to use this letter in any way to refute the claim that I am supporting any such program as that which Lindbergh proclaimed in his Des Moines address.

"No intelligent Negro can afford to lend his support to any such K. K. K. propaganda. We nullify the right to complain of the un-American treatment we receive if we in turn join in heaping the same treatment upon others.

"I am for the destruction and overthrow of Hitler and all of his allies, and I am in favor of giving aid to every nation assisting in that task. I am in favor of America being first to go any place that we think Hitler is trying to go. These are my sentiments, and you may proclaim them to the world."

Browne is 6th district chairman of the Negro Division of the Republican party and chairman of the Negro Republican Voters' League of Iowa.

4-1-1941

AMERICAN PEACE MEETING

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

N. Y. Peace Meeting Draws More Than 1000 Negroes From All Sections of the Nation

APR 12 1941

BY MAURICE SAYLES
New York Correspondent

NEW YORK—United under the slogan that "Negro and White, side by side, can beat war" more than 5,000 delegates from all parts of the country met in a gigantic peace meeting in New York last week-end.

Approximately 1,000 of these delegates were Negroes. There were sharecroppers from the South, miners from Pennsylvania and Alabama, church leaders from Chicago, Negro strikers from the Ford plant at Dearborn, Mich; young Negroes, elderly women and men. In short the Negro delegates, like the white delegates formed a good cross-section.

The meeting was called by the American Peace Mobilization. Probably one of the liveliest sessions of the entire two-day meeting was the panel on "The Negro and the War." This panel was attended by more than five hundred of the Negro delegates.

John Davis Speaks

John P. Davis, executive secretary of the National Negro Congress admonished the delegates to go back to their homes and there speak to the Negro people in their own terms.

"Only then can you effectively organize the Negro people to give expression to their deep undying hatred of war, their hatred of this imperialist war, this war for profits and power," stated Davis.

George B. Murphy, Jr., administrative secretary of the National Negro Congress was chairman. Mr. Murphy stressed that the main problem confronting the American Negro was to obtain economic democracy.

APR 12 1941

We Need Jobs

"It's jobs we must have" cried Edith Lively of the Connecticut Federation of Negro Youth Organizations

Sam Patterson, a native of the British West Indies told the delegates: "I came out of the last war determined that I would never fight again—except for the liberation of the Negro people. And there can be no freedom for the Negro people, while the British Empire, as it stands today, keeps its grip on colored peoples."

"Certain leaders," said Edward Strong of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, "say the war would be all right if they'd only get jim crow out of the army. We must fight vigorously to expose this sham."

Picket Hotels

Large picket lines were placed around five hotels which discriminated against Negro delegates and delegations were sent to call on the managers. More than three hundred delegates marched on the lines carrying placards reading "Jim Crow Must Go", "No Jim Crow" and "This Hotel Unfair",

These pickets were able to obtain a written apology from the manager of the Breslin Hotel. The basis had previously been laid for this action when the committee on arrangements secured written agreements from managers of most of the hotels that they would not discriminate against Negroes As fast as cases were reported delegations of pickets were dispatched. In places which discriminated against Negroes entire delegations sometimes numbering several hundred withdrew from the hotel in protest.

Support Job Fight

Another instance of how keen the delegates were on the discrimination issue was their refusal to ride the busses which are the only transportation to Randall's Island where a rally was scheduled. The bus line is being picketed by the National Negro Congress to secure employment of Negroes. The delegates marched across the Tri-Borough Bridge in protest against the hiring policy of the bus company.

The Rev. John B Thompson in opening the meeting at the Mecca Temple on Saturday night said:

"At the very moment when racial minorities in America are under new attacks, when anti-Semitic literature produced in America floods the mails, the Jews are asked to go into another holy frenzy the British empire. They are asked to forget Lord Lloyd and Lord Halifax, to forget the Balfour Declaration and the cynical policies which followed it, to forget the ruthless divide-and-rule policy of Palestinian administration, and to defend the Jewish people by another war.

APR 12 1941

"The American Negro is asked to accept a very small mess of pottage in national defense in exchange for his birthright of equal citizenship and equal rights."

Advocate Full Equality

At the end of the sessions the delegates adopted a declaration of which the following is a part:

"The Negro people—in increasing numbers—have boldly challenged the right of the Roosevelt government to establish Jim Crowism as a national policy in the armed forces, the job life, the political life of the country. These are the People. They are the forces who work and speak for peace and democracy in America.

"We must maintain and extend our own democracy. We must struggle to preserve and improve American living standards; to protect all rights of labor; to organize the working people into unions of their own choosing; to guarantee full constitutional liberty to all racial, political and religious minorities. Anti-Semitism must be destroyed. The Negro people must have full and free participation in the economic, political, social and cultural life of our country, unhampered by segregation and discrimination. Ten million voteless Americans in the South, Negro and white, must get the ballot."

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

APM Sues 2 N.Y. Hotels for Discriminating Aiganst Negro Peace Convention Delegates

The New York Council of the American Peace Mobilization announced yesterday that it had instituted suit against two New York hotels for discriminating against Negroes.

The hotels in question are the Imperial, Broadway and 32nd St., and the Chesterfield, 130 W. 49th St. The action is being taken under provisions of the New York Civil Rights Law which provide fines of $500 to be levied against public hotels which refuse accommodations to persons because of race, creed, or color.

JUN 6 1941

The cases grew out of the experiences of several Negro delegates to the American People's Meeting in New York City in April.

Announcing the action, Dr. Walter Scott Neff, executive secretary of APM in New York City, asserted:

"We regard our attempt to turn the Civil Rights Law of the State of New York from a dead letter to a living reality as a small but necessary step toward alleviation of the conditions of 13,000,000 Americans denied the benefits of democracy."

JUN 6 1941

41-1941
The Daily Worker
New York. N. Y.

Deep South Croppers Prepare For April 6 Anti-War Meeting

MAR 24 1941

Down in the deep South, where landowners' terror reigns, where sharecroppers and small farmers alike are feeling the brunt of "national defense," the people are looking to the American People's Meeting in New York on April 5-6 to speak their demand that the United States get out of this war.

That is the word that Rev. Owen Whitfield, Negro leader, a former sharecropper, a minister and veteran organizer, has brought to the office of the American Peace Mobilization.

"The people down in the South," he said, "are against our getting into war. They're 999 to 1 against it."

"Yes, they've heard of the American People's Meeting down there. They don't dare speak of it too much in the open but words get around.

"They're talking about it in the cotton fields, in the streets, in the cafes and in the churches."

SOME TO THUMB WAY

"And there'll be delegates coming up from down there, too," Rev. Whitfield added. "There'll be some hitch-hiking and some freight-riding, but they'll get to the meeting somehow."

Rev. Whitfield estimated that fifty or sixty sharecroppers and field workers would be coming to the American People's Meeting as delegates from churches, unions, community housing centers and from the fields.

"There'd be lots more if they had any money to get here with," he said, and he threw on the table several slugs of an aluminum-tin compound.

"That's the 'money' the workers on the plantations receive. It's stamped with the name and address of the local company store, and it's good there—and nowhere else. Some planters pay in coupons—little slips of paper exchangeable for goods only at the planter's own general store. Some of my people never see cash at all. And how can they get up here without some cash?"

MAR 24 1941

A soft-spoken, determined-looking man, Rev. Whitfield took up the ministry because he "just liked to help my fellow men better their conditions." But he soon realized that more concrete steps were needed, and has since dedicated his life to organizing the Negro and white sharecroppers and "day workers" of the South into unions.

ONCE MOVED BY NEW DEAL

A vice-president of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America, and a field organizer for the American Peace Mobilization, Whitfield was courted by the Roosevelt Administration during the heyday of the New Deal, and was often called into consultation by government officials.

When the war drive started, efforts were made to persuade him to use his tremendous influence with Southern workers to influence them to follow the Administration's new course. He refused. He has subsequently been evicted from his Federal Housing Administration home. No longer do government officials seek him out.

But that hasn't disturbed him. His organizing for peace, for real democracy in the South goes on.

"And everywhere I go, the people don't want war. The small farmers are being pushed off land they have had in the family for generations, to make way for TNT plants and powder factories.

"The small tenant farmers are being dispossessed and turned into landless wanderers. More than 27,000 of them in the last few years have lost their land, their chance to earn a living.

"And the Negro people—my people—are not only pushed off the land, but they are refused any jobs in all this 'defense' industry that is going on. Why, at Sikeston, Missouri, they built a great aviation school, and they wouldn't even hire a Negro water boy.

"And when it comes to voting down there, why even when a Negro can raise the money to pay his poll tax in Arkansas, they write across the back of his ballot 'Not to be Tallied!'"

MAR 24 1941

"And they don't any of them see the solution in going to Europe to get killed. They say the answer is some real democracy right here, not a war 'over there'.

"Yes, they're looking to the American People's Meeting to say what's in their hearts. And you can be sure of this: that there are hundreds of thousands of people down there who are too poor to buy the postal card to write you about it, who are with you in this meeting for 'Peace, Liberty and the Common Welfare'."

Dead-Set Against War

are the poor farmers of the South, Rev. Owen Whitfield, sharecropper leader declares. He is shown above with Frederick V. Field, APM leader.

—Daily Worker Photo

Southern News
Almanac
Birmingham, Ala.

HUNDREDS OF DELEGATES FROM SOUTH TO ATTEND PEOPLE'S MEETING

Farmers And Workers Will Join With 25,000

At New York Gathering, Thompson To Speak

APR 3 - 1941

Late reports indicate several hundred delegates will go from the deep South to swell the thousands that will gather in Mecca Temple, New York City, April 5-6 for the American People's Meeting.

APR 3 - 1941

The people's worries of low income, unemployment, protection of civil liberties, the rights of labor, and security for farmers, will be discussed. A demand will be made that the United States turn from dangerous meddling in the affairs of warring nations to a policy of true national defense and to promotion of peace.

The meeting is sponsored by the American Peace Mobilization.

"The people down in the South," says Rev. Owen Whitfield, of Arkansas "are against our getting into war. They are 999 to 1 against it."

Rev. Whitfield is a preacher, sharecropper, and sharecropper organizer.

He expects sixty delegates from Northeast Arkansas and Southeast Missouri. "There'll be some hitchhiking and some freight-riding," he said, "but they'll get there." It will be a people's meeting.

APR 3 - 1941

FROM ALABAMA

The delegation from Alabama will consist of two automobiles of Alabama Farmers' Union delegates, and delegates from textile, ore and coal mine locals, as well as representatives of The Southern Conference for Human Welfare, the League of Young Southerners, the Southern Negro Youth Congress, and mine worker Youth Clubs. Every Southern state will be represented by delegations.

The opening address of the meeting will be given by Rev. John B Thompson, national chairman of American Peace Mobilization and head of the University of Oklahoma's Presbyterian Foundation.

REID ROBINSON

Other prominent speakers on the program and sponsoring the meeting are Reid Robinson, president International Union Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers; Jack McMichael, of Georgia, Chairman American Youth Congress; Hugh de Lacey, president Washington Commonwealth Federation; John P. Davis, national secretary National Negro Congress; former Governor Elmer A. Benson, of Minnesoto; Congressman Vito Marcantonio, of New York; Dr. Max Yergan, international commissioner on African Affairs, and many others.

The Southern News Almanac will bring the full story of this purely people's meeting to its readers through the services of a special correspondent attending the proceedings.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

APM Warns Hotels Against Discrimination

APR 5 - 1941

Demands Accommodations Here for All Negro Delegates to Parley

"We expect all our delegates, Negro and white, to be extended full courtesies and privileges in all New York City hotels," Frederick V. Field, Executive Secretary, American Peace Mobilization, wrote yesterday in a letter to the Hotel Men's Association.

The letter was prompted, Mr. Field explained by the fact that several hotels had indicated that they would not accept as guests Negro delegates to the APM peace conference.

Quoting excerpts from the New York law which provides a penalty for refusal of accommodations in hotels and other places of public accommodation, "on account of race, creed or color," Mr. Field wrote:

APR 5 - 1941

"Should any of our delegaets be refused accommodations, or in any other way be discrimanated against in any hotel in New York City, we shall institute immediate and appropriate action against the hotel in question as provided by the law of the State of New York."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Discrimination and War Hit at Peace Meeting

APR 12 1941

800 Join in Asking End of J.C. in Army and Defense Work

NEW YORK, (ANP). — Some 800 colored delegates out of 5,000 persons from twenty States, attending the two-day sessions of the American Peace Mobilizers, joined in a declaration against war and the fight against discrimination in all of its forms.

A paper, "The Declaration of the American People's Meeting," which was read to a capacity house at Mecca Temple, where discussion clinics convened, charged that members of Congress and "men in high places propose to fight Hitlerism abroad by establishing Hitlerism at home."

APR 12 1941

One Plank of APM

Among the planks in the declaration, which was prepared by John P. Davis, executive secretary of the National Negro Congress, and John Thompson, chairman of the APM, was one which stated:

"Regain and strengthen our constitutional liberties by defending the right to strike, resist attacks on free education, insist upon equal rights for the colored people and put an end to anti-Semitism."

Dr. Max Yergan, president of the NNC, who headed the commission on foreign policy, declared in his report, a message directed to the peoples of India, Africa and the various colonies of the allied forces, "We know that our combined efforts for peace are the only means of securing peace, freedom and democracy for all."

APR 12 1941

Makes Plea for Funds

Following a statement that the resolutions for peace and democracy of the APM would be passed by Congress, Mr. Davis called for a collection to carry on the fight and received many pledges and cash contributions.

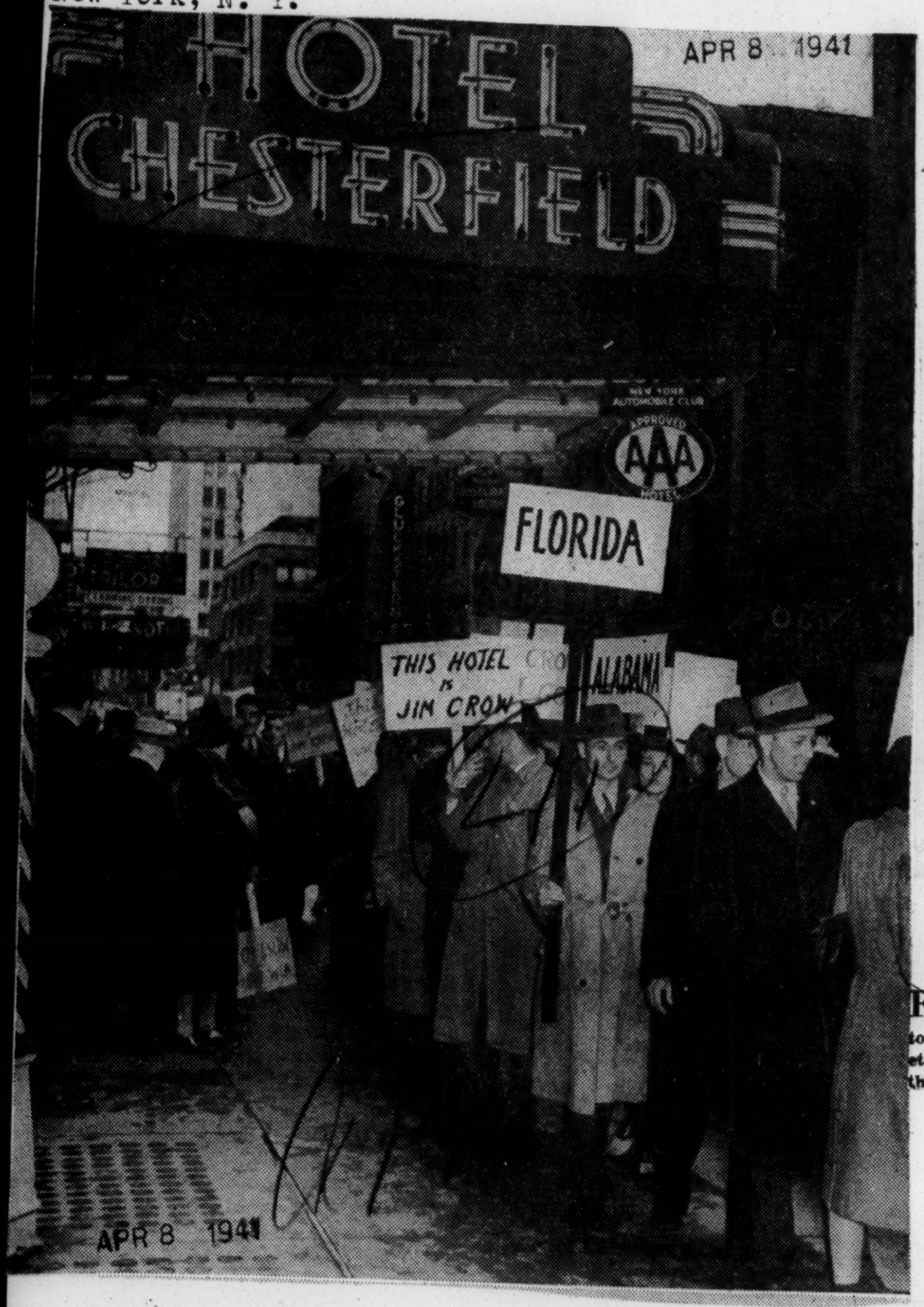
What appeared to be the greatest ovation of the meetings was that accorded Paul Robeson, who sang "songs of the people."

Resolutions calling for the passage of the Marcantonio Bill, which would penalize defense industries practicing racial discrimination, abolition of poll taxes, establishment of trade union advisory committees, and the ending of discrimination in the armed forces were among those passed by the group.

41-1941

AMERICAN PEOPLE'S MEETING

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.



For Negro Rights: American peope's meeting here demanded and fought for full rights of the Negro people. Reports to the meeting disclosed that six mid-town hotels discriminated against Negroes. Delegates (shown above before the Chesterfield Hotel) picketed all six Sunday. Lower picture shows three delegates who formed part of the Florida delegation to the meeting.

—Daily Worker Photo

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Six Hotels Here Jimcrow Negro Delegates But Peace Delegate Pickets Win Apology

APR 7 1941

Jim Crow was given a smashing blow yesterday when six mid-town hotels were picketed yesterday by delegates to the American Peace Meeting for discriminating against Negroes.

The hotels, all who had made written or verbal agreements with the A. P. M. not to raise color lines, violated the contracts, according to a report rendered to the nearly 5,000 delegates at Mecca Temple, 133 W. 55th St., by Mrs. Aline Davis Hays, of the meeting's committee on hotel discrimination.

The hotels picketed were the Breslin, Lincoln, Chesterfield, Imperial, Plymouth and Times Square

Not only were the hotels picketed but in a number of cases while delegations withdrew their reservation in protest despite the lateness of the hour.

APR 7 1941

The Boston group walked out of the Chesterfield with their baggage at 1 A. M. yesterday.

The prejudice against the Negro delegates was shown by refusal to accommodate additional Negroes after a few had been registered and by discrimination against those already in the hotels, Mrs. Hays reported.

APR 7 1941

APOLOGIZES

Shortly after the pickets appeared the management of the Hotel Breslin sought out the APM committee on discrimination and submitted a written apology to the convention. Their discriminatory practices immediately ceased.

Not only were the hotels picketed but the resolutions were adopted to name the hotels as "unfair" and circulate various groups. Full publicity would be given the hotels involved, Mrs. Hays said.

There were also rumors that legal action would be taken against the hotels on the ground of violation of the State civil rights law. No official confirmation of this was given by the committee, however.

Southern News Almanac
Birmingham, Ala.

People's Meeting Great, Farmer Says

APR 17 1941

LONNIE DRUMMOND FINDS NATION'S FARMERS ARE ALL IN SAME BOAT

"The American People's Meeting which was held in New York April 5 and 6 is one of the greatest things that has ever been gotten up," Lonnie Drummond told Jefferson County Alabama Farmers' Union meeting at Kimberly Saturday.

"Lonnie, you can't leave now and go to New York because it is right at crop time." This is what Mr. Drummond said to himself at first. On second thought, however, he said "but if something is not done to improve the conditions of the farmers and other working people it won't do any good to make the crop any how."

APR 17 1941

So Mr. Drummond went. He said he learned numerous helpful things out of the meeting. He found the farmers in Minnesota, in New York state, and elsewhere in the country were suffering from the same troubles that vex the Southern farmer. He found Northern, Eastern and Western farmers anxious to work with farmers in the South to get a good farm program that would recognize and relieve the troubles of the family sized farmer.

GOT TOGETHER

He said that Southern coal miners never did begin to improve their conditions until they leagued up with Northern coal miners. He said the meeting showed the great value of farmers and all other working people getting together to make plans how to better themselves.

APR 17 1941

He was very pleased with the hospitality he received in New York and said it was as good and genuine "as it could ever have been here in Alabama."

One New York young lady told him she was afraid to come to Alabama on account of stories she had heard. "These stories are told to keep the people separated," Mr Drummond said.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

APM Interviews Show Sweeping Opposition to War Propaganda

All this week, anti-poll-tax week throughout the nation, U. S. warmongers have been flooding Harlem with thousands of leaflets warning Negroes of their fate "if Hitler comes over."

But Harlem sees through the trick.

It has been definitely antagonized by British Empire appeals for help.

That was the verdict reported yesterday to an American Peace Mobilization photographer by five prominent New York City Negroes.

Dr. James J. Jones

"They tell us if Hitler conquered America he'd treat us like an inferior race,' said Dr. James J. Jones, Harlem physician. "Why Hitler would blush with shame if he could come to this country and see how 'inferior races' are really treated."

WORLD WAR JIM CROW

Dr. Jones, who was a doughboy in the last war, gave a preview of what would happen to Negroes if they are railroaded to the battlefront again.

"Those Southern bureaucrats ran everything. They'd put up signs like 'Negroes Not Served in This Hut'; they'd block off Negro sections when movies were shown in Army camps. They even segregated us in rest camps and Jim-Crowed wounded Negro soldiers when they came home to recuperate.

"Aren't we persecuted, lynched, denied jobs right here by our present rulers?

"Aren't we prevented from voting? Why the country wouldn't be on the verge of war today if 10,000,000 Southern people, instead of a handful of Southern Bourbons, could elect their representatives to Congress.

DEMOCRACY AT HOME

"If we believe in democracy, let's enforce it at home. War would make bad conditions worse, and Negroes being on the lowest rung of the ladder, we would suffer most."

Mrs. Rena Jones

"Negro women and youth have no illusions about what this war may bring them," according to his wife, Mrs. Rena Jones. "Even if there are a few more jobs, they don't go to Negroes," she said. "Besides we all know that wartime employment is only the temporary kind."

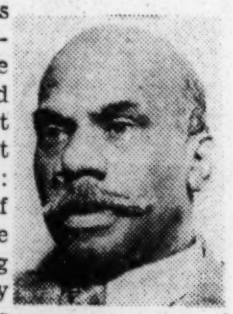
Sam Patterson

Sam Patterson, national organizer for the International Workers Order, declared that Negroes have nothing to hope for from a British victory.

"Already Great Britain dominates three-quarters of the Negro people of the world, and British rule denies to Negroes every fundamental right of democracy just as the ruling class does in the United States.

VICTIMS OF IMPERIALISM

"Negroes, victims of imperialism, can't logically fight on the side of imperialism. We must push democratic measures instead, we must see that measures like the Geyer Anti-Poll Tax Bill are voted on by Congress."



Dr. Chas. A. Petioni

Dr. Charles Augustin Petioni is a native of Trinidad and knows about imperialism first hand. He said: "Regardless of what may be said, the big danger today for my people is local Hitlerism, not Adolf Hitler. If we go to war all minorities will suffer.

"I heartily agree with the program of the American Peace Mobilization. 'Let Our Foreign Policy Wage Peace.' Yes, we must show the peoples of the world that we want the same things they do. We must have peace, before all the nations are devastated just to fill the pockets of war-mongers."

Dr. Max Yergan

"Having lived in Africa for 14 years," said Dr. Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress and vice-chairman of A.P.M., "I speak from experience when I say that British imperialists and American Bourbons are the great barriers to Negro freedom. Both practice persecution of minorities, both are enemies of democracy. Our fight is not their fight. Our fight is on the battlefront of peace."

41-1941
Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Students' Union Takes Strong Stand Against Poll Tax, Mob Rule In South

JAN 11 19[illegible]

Doxey Wilkerson, Howard University, Brands Denial of Equality to Negro Students, Discrepancy in Educational Funds, as Real Subversive Forces in American Education.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—The American Student Union condemned the anti-democratic poll tax, which deprives more than 10 million Negro and white Southern citizens of the right to vote, during the third day of the Union's sixth national convention in this city.

In the meeting's resolution on the defense of American living standards and liberties, the Student Union convention demanded "full political and social equality for the Negro people through abolition of the poll tax, passage of the anti-lynching bill, and an end to discrimination in private and government jobs." The rights of Negro conscrips, and of all other conscrips, must be vigorously defended, the convention declared. The action on the resolution was unanimous.

On the previous day, the convention's main report was that of Dr. Doxey Wilkerson, professor of education at Howard university. Dr. Wilkerson branded as "the real subversive forces in American education," the denial of equality to Negro students and the discrepancy between educational funds expended on the education of Negro children in the South and the contribution of the Negro to his community's income. These he characterized as some of "the most flagrantly subversive influences which now infest American education."

The chairman of the convention's presiding committee, Bayard Rusten, Negro student of the College of the City of New York, opened the session at which Dr. Wilkerson spoke.

During the same day another officer of the Student Union, Miss Maia Turchin of the New York district, analysed the special problems facing America's Negro students. Said Miss Turchin: "Today the fight for the rights of the Negro people, just as the fight for the defense of democratic education, can mean only one thing—a struggle against those people who would seek to take Amreica into the European war. The fight for the rights of the Negro people, like the struggle for democratic education, is the fight to keep America out of the war."

Speaking at the convention session on "Youth in the Service of Expanding Democracy," Edward E. Strong, executive secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, accused the government of "proposing to organize and direct pogroms against racial minorities, the Negro and Jewish people, and thus terrorize them into accepting war." Mr. Strong amplified his charges with citation of numerous instances of direct terrorism against minority groups—terrorism which has had the tacit sanction

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

Late But Not Too Late

Action of the National Student Federation of America in divorcing itself from the Communist-controlled American Youth Congress is an encouraging indication that common sense and respect for those things fundamentally American are beginning to return to youth groups. The processes of disillusionment have been slow but apparently nonetheless effective. Action of the National Student Federation is a particularly severe blow to the radical group because it represents some 100 American colleges and had a representation in the American Youth Congress of nearly 125 delegates. The vote of repudiation was 87 to 24. Given time the radical organization will probably dissolve of its own lost momentum.

JAN 8 - 1941

Having recanted in its allegiance, the Student Federation went even further to demonstrate its change of heart. It turned down a suggestion that it affiliate with another international student group whose sponsors are persons in high places. In that it showed wisdom, too, for while the international situation remains what it is any group with tap roots running into Europe is naturally suspect. The changed attitude on the part of the student federation comes late but not too late. It may cause revision of opinion existing among many that some American youth groups were wholely lost to the cause of basic Americansim.

41-1941
Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla

American Student Union Group Convenes In New York; Backs Negro Rights

JAN 11 1941

Asserts Poll Tax Deprives More Than Ten Million Negroes and Whites The Right To Vote

Negro Student's Problems Analyzed

NEW YORK CITY.—(ANP)—The American Student union, progressive national student organization, Sunday condemned the anti-democratic poll tax, which deprives more than 10 mililion Negro and white southern citizens of the right to vote. The action was taken during the third day of the union's sixth national convention in New York City.

In the meeting's resolution on the defense of American living standards and liberties, the convention demanded "full political and social equality for the Negro people through abolition of the poll tax, passage of the anti-lynching bill, and an end to discrimination in private and government jobs." The rights of Negro conscripts and of all other conscripts, must be vigorously defended the convention declared. The action on the resolution was unanimous.

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The chairman of the convention's presiding committee, Bayard Rusten, Negro student of the College of the City of New York, opened the session at which Dr. Wilkerson spoke.

During the same day another officer of the union, Miss Maia Turchin of the New York district, analysed the special problems facing America's Negro students. Said Miss Turchin: "Today every Negro student who joins the American Student union, who by this very act has significantly driven one more nail into the coffin of jim crow, has the possibilities of becoming an influential force for the student peace movement, and of adding greatly to our understanding of what real democracy means and how we must fight for it. The Negro ASU'er must explain to his Negro schoolmates that the struggle for the rights of the Negro people are part and sinew of the struggle of the entire American people for life, liberty and happiness."

JAN 1 1941

Speaking at the convention session on "Youth in the Service of Expanding Democracy," Edward E. Streng, executive secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress ,accused the government of "proposing to organize and direct pogroms against racial minorities, the Negro and the Jewish people, and thus terrorize them into accepting war." Mr. Strong amplified his charges with citation of numerous instances of direct terrorism against minority groups-terrorism, he said, which has had the tacit sanction of government officials in whose power it was to prevent it.

Throughout the entire convention, in discussion and in leading speeches, officials of the union and invited speakers pointed out the need for extending American democracy, before the defense of "British and Amrican vested interests saddles the nation with open fascism."

Mrs. Roosevelt Reported Backing Lash Commission

Dies Committee Told She Supports Former Student Union Leader

Special to the World-Telegram.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.—The Dies committee has been informed by a "reliable source" that Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt has been a "backer" of Joseph P. Lash, former American Student Union secretary, in his quest for a reserve commission in the navy, it was learned today.

The Dies committee's files contains an exhaustive record on Mr. Lash, including his connection with the Student Union. This organization, it reported, was "the result of a united front gathering of young Socialists and Communists."

Mr. Lash has been a White House guest on various occasions, and was one of a small party of friends who helped observe Mrs. Roosevelt's 57th birthday Oct. 11 by cruising with the President and his wife on the yacht Potomac.

It was learned today that Mrs. Roosevelt will be host at the White House on Friday [illegible] to a meeting of the International Students Union, an organization of which Mr. Lash is general secretary.

The International Students' Union has a Washington unit called the Washington Students' Service Bureau, at 1155 16th St., N. W. It was said at this office that the meeting Friday, a tea, is at Mrs. Roosevelt's request.

Mrs. Roosevelt, it was said, will be present, and Archibald MacLeish, Congressional librarian, will speak.

The purpose of the Students' Service bureau, it was explained, is to help students toward a fuller comprehension of the origins and meaning of American democracy.

Invitations to the meeting went to various government department heads, who were asked to appoint a representative from their department to attend. This representative subsequently would serve as a liaison officer between the students' organization and his department, according to an announced plan.

The Navy Intelligence, as a result of Mr. Lash's inquiry concerning a reserve officer's commission, is understood to have been investigating Mr. Lash's past.

In reference to the American Student Union, of which Mr. Lash was secretary, a 1939 Dies Committee report said:

"The Young Communist League takes credit for the creation of the American Student Union, since it was its organization, the National Student League, which issued the call and organized the convention which was held in Columbus."

The Committee's files also show Mr. Lash has contributed to New Masses, that his activities have been reported in the Communist Daily Worker, and that he was active in alleged "front" organizations which campaigned in this country for aid to Spanish "democracy."

AMERICAN YOUTH CONGRESS

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Youth Congress Hears Stimson On Race Issue

FEB 11 1941

Two opposing factions in the American youth movement wound up their Washington business yesterday with calls on high officials.

Members of the American Youth Congress picketed the War Department with signs charging Army discrimination against Negroes and were met with an unexpected curbstone speech by Secretary Stimson. Later a Youth Congress delegation saw French Ambassador Henry-Haye and spent an hour discussing India with undersecretaries at the British Embassy.

Meanwhile, representatives of the National Foundation for American Youth, an organization sponsored by Gene Tunney, delivered a letter to Representative J. Parnell Thomas (Republican), of New Jersey, urging the Dies Committee to investigate the American Youth Congress for "Fifth-Column activities."

FEB 11 1941

Assures Representation

Secretary Stimson emerged from the Munitions Building with a press aide and a stenographer after a Youth Congress delegation was denied admittance to the building to see him. He looked over the 100 pickets, doffed his hat and addressed the throng while the stenographer took down his remarks.

"I can assure you," he said, "that the colored population will be given proportionate representation in the United States Army."

The slight, gray-haired Cabinet member told the youths that he had seen their banners from his window and was on his way to lunch. He cautioned them to be sure of their facts when they "start a crusade," and added:

"I am the first Secretary of War to have appointed a colored officer to be a brigadier general . . . I am the second Secretary of War who has appointed a colored person as civilian aide . . . And, finally, I am now starting the organization of a pursuit squadron to be composed of colored personnel, including pilots."

Tuskegee Squadron

The squadron, he explained, would be organized and trained at Tuskegee, Ala. Training of some of its personnel already has been started by the Civil Aeronautics Authority, he said.

The A. Y. C. delegation that called at the French Embassy was led by Mrs. Helen Simon, chairman of the American Youth Fellowship campaign. They told the Ambassador they had heard 1,000 young Spanish Loyalist refugees in France were about to be shipped back to certain doom in Franco Spain.

Henry-Haye promised to cable his government to find out the facts and convey their interest in the case, Mrs. Simon said.

Another inquiry was set on foot at the British Embassy. Refused an opportunity to see Lord Halifax, the youths saw several undersecretaries, and asked the whereabouts of 20 Indian students who, they said, had been reported jailed by British authorities for anti-war activities in India.

Youth Congress Attacked

The 20 had studied in the United States and were acquaintances of Youth Congress members.

The youths who called on Representative Thomas charged that the Youth Congress, by raising money to bring Spanish loyalist refugees to Latin America, was trying to "ood his hemisphere with Stalinist agents from abroad."

Thomas said he would present their letter to the Dies Committee, if the committee is recreated by the House today. A resolution recreating the committee has been granted an hour of debate today by the Rules Committee.

New Masses
New York, N. Y.

Student Conference

APR 15 1941

THROUGH the initiative of the American Youth Congress, delegates representing sixty-three colleges from fifteen states gathered at Harvard several days ago to discuss how best to preserve democracy in education. The young people expressed widely divergent views on many subjects; but on the question of academic freedom and the need to encourage and spread progressive ideas, they were solidly united. Red-baiting evidently has little attraction for them. For these delegates took the word "democracy" with great seriousness; to them it meant the broadest freedom for all to participate in discusssions and decisions. In these days of press and radio smears, of "investigations" and witch hunts, which under the banner of "democracy" utterly deny all democratic precepts, the example set by students was indeed heartening.

The conference set up a permanent council to "carry forward the crusade for democratic education." The organization was specifically to be open to all students "regardless of economic status, race, color, sex, religious or political opinion." It recognized as the main enemy of education those groups like the Rapp-Coudert committee which would purge the schools and colleges of anyone not committed to war and reaction, not eager to cut budgets and transform educational institutions into military training centers. In addition, the Council endorsed the April 23 student action against war, and urged affiliates to participate. And so, even though the Council did not take any direct stand on the question of war, the endorsement of the peace demonstration gave further evidence that youth as a whole rejects the war hysteria fed to them from all sides.

APR 15 1941

B. CACACAC BABEBRECRABVBIBEBABCABNBZBB

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Youth Duped

YOUTH CONGRESS' ANTICS DISCLOSES YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE NOT CAUGHT ON

BY MARJORIE MCKENZIE

FEB 15 1941

SEVERAL thousand bitter and highly ineffectual young people were in the Nation's Capital over the week-end conducting a Town Meeting of Youth. They said they were the representatives of millions of young Americans in organizations affiliated with the American Youth Congress and they came to protest the passage by the Congress of the United States of the Lend-Lease bill. They expended their energy, enthusiasm and eagerness in a losing battle, so perhaps they had a right to be bitter.

This year they did not have an portunity to hiss Mr. Roosevelt's address from the lawn of the White house nor to accept Mrs. Roosevelt's hospitality from within. Many of the doors of last year's welcome were closed to them. On the eve of their arrival, members of the Washington Youth Council were frantically seeking in the nation's aresnal accommodations for a thousand delegates, most of them colored. Registration, by compulsion, was held at a Negro church and the open meeting at a fight arena, in the heart of Washington's black belt.

Miss McKenzie

HOAX ON YOUTH

THE answer to their cool reception is that the people very generally believe the charges made last year that this is a Popular Front organization. If true, then a bad tactical error has been made, leaving the AYC in a state of disrepute which will lead to the ignominious fate of the other "liberal" organizations of the past five years. If true, then a terrible hoax has been played on American youth which has been seeking to make itself felt as a force on the national scene, despite the insecurity of NYA, WPA, relief and unemployment.

There were some good speeches made, more resounding than logical, by Jack McMichael, chairman of the AYC. Michael J. Quill, president of the Transport Workers' union and a representative of the American Peace Mobilization and by John P. Davis, executive secretary of the National Negro Congress.

Members of the House Foregin Relations committee and the Senate Munitions committee, who were invited to hear the public testimony on H.R. 1776 (lend-lease bill) were all "unavoidably" absent.

FEB 15 1941

The speakers were in agreement that the passage of the lend-lease bill will lead America into a war of imperialism which cannot be waged without destroying democracy at home.

They want a peace on the people's terms—peace granting the liberation of people all over the world, a peace with no annexations, no indemnities . . with a complete reversal of the present American policy, including abolition of the poll-tax, lynching, jim-crow, unemployment and discrimination against aliens.

They lashed out at a "fear campaign which assumes that Hitler will arrive at Ellis Island any moment." They are opposed to the Selective Service and "Yankee imperialism in establishing defense bases in the West Indies without consulting the three and one-half million natives."

RAP CONGRESSMEN

THEY were very sarcastic about the absent congressmen and the refusal of their democratic right to testify against the bill in congress. And they were very naive. How do they propose to stop Hitler, while an ostrich-like American blandly pursues a sudden "reversal of policy" to make this land a paradise of brotherhood and opportunity? They were very loud in their denunciation of America's failure to lend support to Ethiopia and Spain. Well, isn't the principle the same? Britain, they say, is not a democracy. Did Haile Selassie ever claim to be Emperor by grace of a vote of the people? American's, they insist, are against the bill. What did they interpret as the foreign policy of the Presidential campaign platform? Have they taken stock of their fellow critics of the bill, among whom no star shines with greater lustre than Col. Lindbergh? Wouldn't you think they would be naturally suspicious of finding themselves on his side?

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Problems of Negroes To Be Aired at Town Meeting in Washington

FEB 1 1941

A call to all young people, "organized and unorganized, urban and rural, Negro and white" to gather in Washington for a nation-wide "Town Meeting of Youth" on February 7, 8 and 9 has been issued by the American Youth Congress.

Pointing out that Negroes are jim-crowed in the armed forces and in the defense industries, and that the anti-lynching and anti-poll tax bills are ignored by Congress and the Administration, the Youth Congress asks young people to come to Washington to discuss these problems and to make known their views to the nation.

4 Million Jobless

The call to the Town Meeting notes that over four million young people remain unemployed and that available jobs are closed to many because training is limited and practically denied to Negroes.

The Youth Congress has been carrying on a campaign to withhold government contracts to firms which refuse to hire Negroes.

The call to the Town Meeting notes that the Bill of Rights is being violated and that "an atmosphere of officially encouraged war hysteria brings persecution and restriction of the rights of political and racial minorities and the foreign born."

"Our Americanism faces the crucial test of protecting and extending our democratic heritage, or yielding to dictatorship and war."

"Peace time military conscription," the call to the Town Meeting asserts, "is taking men from normal life into army camps."

"Their general welfare must be protected, the return of their jobs guaranteed; jim-crowism in the army must be ended."

Work for All Urged

As an alternative to conscription and proposals for forced labor, the American Youth Congress proposes the American Youth Act which gives jobs and training to young people regardless of race, color or creed.

Stating that the gains made by labor are being attacked, the Youth Congress asserts that "no nation can be strong if standards of hours, wages and working conditions for labor, including women workers, are abandoned."

The Town Meeting which will be similar to that held last year when 5,000 young people met in Washington in a Citizenship Institute, was called because the Youth Congress believed that "democracy can be safeguarded and extended only through the alert and vigorous activity of its citizens."

Any young person, organized or unorganized, urban or rural, Negro or white, may attend the Town Meeting. Although any individuals may attend the meeting, organizations are urged to send representatives so that these representatives may report back home to dozens of young people who are unable to make the trip.

No advance registration is necessary for the Town Meeting. Delegates will register upon their arrival in Washington.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

'Defeat War Powers Bill' Keynotes Opening Of Youth Town Meeting

FEB 8 1941

Delegation Protests Jim Crow to Army Chief of Staff

3,000 ARE EXPECTED

Delegates From All Over Nation Pour Into Capital

By Adam Lapin
(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 7.—On a note of ringing opposition to the President's war power bill, the Town Meeting of Youth sponsored by the American Youth Congress opened here tonight.

While thusands of delegates from all over the country were still streaming into the capital, Jack McMichael, AYC chairman, told the opening mass rally of the Town Meeting that the lend-lease measure "will drag us all the way into the war."

McMichael said that the AYC "opposes this bill as an act of war and a measure for the establishment of military dictatorship in the United States."

FEB 8 1941

A total of more than 3,000 delegates from church, civic, fraternal and trade union groups are expected by AYC leaders at the Town Meeting. They said that the dominant note at the meeting would be the opposition of American Youth to involvement in war.

HOLD OPEN HEARING

Tonight's mass rally, which was still going on while this story was being written, was in the form of an open hearing at which progressive and youth leaders who had been denied a chance to appear before Senate and House committees on the lend-lease measure were given a chance to be heard for the first time.

Most of the delegates who came in during the day by bus, train and broken-down jallopy hardly waited to pack their bags before swinging into action.

A delegation of 18 from 7 states lodged a strong protest against jim-crow discrimination in the Army in a one-hour conference with General George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff of the United States Army.

Edward Strong of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, and Miss Jean Horie of the New York Council of the AYC, who led the delegation, reported that Marshall upheld the present set-up of discrimination and flatly refused to grant equal rights to Negroes.

BUTTON-HOLE CONGRESSMEN

A larger group of delegates immediately left for the Capitol where they button-holed Congressmen and Senators to make known their opposition to the lend-lease bill.

Demands which the AYC delegates made to General Marshall were for an end to segregation of Negroes in the Army, improvement of conditions in conscript camps, and the penalizing of Wagner Act violators by withholding government contracts.

Miss Horie and Mr. Strong said that General Marshall took the position that he was completely "satisfied" with the status quo in regard to Negroes in the Army.

They stated that he said the segregated Negro troops in the Army were "the most contented units" in the Army and that the reason for this was that they were the most efficient.

FEB 8 1941

The Youth Congress leaders pointed out that this was simply one way of saying that Negro soldiers practically never received promotions.

They reported that Marshall told them that there were only 250 Negro Reserve officers as compared with 100,000 white reserve officers.

DODGES DEMANDS

Asked why there were not more Negro reserve officers, Marshall was reported to have said:

"That relates to the past. And we are only concerned with the present."

Then asked what would be done to remedy this situation, Marshall was reported to have replied:

"That relates to the future and it therefore does not concern us. We are now concerned only with the present."

Strong, who acted as spokesman for the group, told Marshall that it was evident that there was a "fundamental disagreement" between the attitude of the War Department and of the Youth Congress.

The AYC leaders said that Marshall had made it plain that the War Department was keenly aware of the widespread protests against discrimination in the Army and followed newspaper clippings on this subject.

On the question of Wagner Act violators, Marshall was reported to have said that the War Department is primarily "interested in getting the materials and we're interested in getting them quickly."

WON'T IMPROVE CAMPS

Marshall, Mr. Strong and Miss Horie said, was completely indifferent to the problem of improving conditions at Army camps. They quoted him as follows:

"Let me tell you, those young people are healthier than they are at home. They are much better off than they are at home. As a matter of fact, they get better food than I get at home."

The open hearing on the lend-lease bill tonight was conducted in a modest mid-town auditorium which AYC leaders were forced to rent after they were denied the use of the Labor Department Auditorium which was available to the AYC last year by the administration.

AYC leaders have charged that their opposition to the lend-lease bill is the real reason that they are denied the right to the government auditorium and that administration spokesmen refused to address them because of their opposition to the lend-lease bill.

McMichael told the open hearing that the action of Congress on this measure "may change the whole course of our lives."

"What Congress does with this bill may decide whether the young people of America will have an opportunity to lead creative, intelligent, useful lives, or whether they will be forced to die in Europe's slaughter," he declared. "It may decide whether or not we, the young people, shall live in a democracy or under a dictatorship."

RAPS GAG ON PEOPLE

He declared **"that it was a sorry fact that both the Senate and the House Committee on Foreign Affairs refused to listen to the testimony of young people who will give their blood if this country goes to war."**

"It is a sad commentary on democratic procedure and a foretaste of the complete denial of all democratic rights premeditated under this bill, that these committees would not hear the young people who are opposed to the bill—particularly because it is we who will be most affected if this bill becomes law. This procedure foreshadows the black-out of democratic rights which would follow the passage of the bill."

"The United States has already passed from the stage of neutrality to that of an active war alliance with Great Britain," McMichael said.

"This bill will drag us all the way into the war.

"It would abrogate the Johnson Act, set no limit to the extent of our participation in the war, make possible the convoying of ships with the inevitable 'incidents,' in fact, it would put the United States in the position of waging an active war with ships and men—although as is the fashion of the times, an undeclared one."

McMichael continued: "We in the American Youth Congress believe that peace is the best defense of American democracy. We hold no brief for Hitler-decorated Americans who would like to see another Munich in Europe at the expense of free peoples. We yield to no group in our determined opposition to any and every aspect of Hitlerism.

CREATES DICTATORSHIP

"That is exactly why we oppose this bill which, under the guise of defeating Hitler, institutes a dictatorship in our own country. Nor can we see how the United States would be contributing to the establishment of a democratic Europe by invading it with an expeditionary force and imposing upon the suffering people of Europe another Versailles, and inevitably, another Hitler.

"Yet this is just what the lend-lease bill proposes to do. Its avowed aim is to defend democracy Yet it gives to the President of the United States powers that any fascist dictator might very well envy. It would substitute government by decree for representative government. It would transform Congress into a useless decoration."

Reverend Owen A. Knox, chairman of the National Federation of Constitutional Liberties, attacked

the lend-lease bill as a menace to civil liberties and said that the abrogation of constitutional government, proposed in HR 1776, cannot serve the defense of democracy but can only spell its destruction."

Stating that a tremendous drive is being made in the United States to deprive the people of their civil rights, Reverend Knox branded the Voorhis bill, the Smith Alien Registration law, the Smith sedition and military disaffection law, and the Burke-Wadsworth conscription law as bills which encroach on the constitutional liberties of the American people and which will become increasingly menacing as war hysteria rises.

Knox attacked the hostile steps that have been taken against minority political parties. He stated that "the attack upon the constitutional rights of Communists has been followed by a general assault upon the rights of labor, upon progressive legislation, upon academic freedom, and that "if the wave of reaction is to be stopped, it must be checked when it attacks the most unpopular political party."

A sour note in the midst of the widespread opposition among the young delegates to the lend-lease bill was sounded by Joseph P. Lash, administration stooge in the Youth movement, who issued a red-baiting statement to the press attacking the American Youth Congress and supporting full aid to Britain.

Tomorrow the Town Meeting will hear a keynote address by Jack McMichael, AYC chairman, and activities of the delegates will swing into high gear.

A good part of tomorrow will be taken up with lobbying against the lend-lease bill on Capitol Hill.

The delegates have obtained a permit to parade through the heart of Washington.

The parade will proceed to the historic Washington Monument where it will be addressed by **Rep. Vito Marcantonio of New York.**

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland
FEB 15 1941

M. Max Hudicourt of Haiti, representing the Council for Pan-American Democracy, as he was photographed at the Town Meeting.

Chandra Sekhor, leader of the Madras Student Federation in India, wished members of the American Youth Congress success.

Benjamin Humphreys from Tuskegee Institute, photographed as he spoke at the Town Meeting on Sunday.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

DEMOCRACY AT WORK IN NATION'S CAPITAL

FEB 15 1941

"Jim Crow Must Go," AYC Paraders Chant

"Old Jim Crow Must Go" chanted 6,000 members of the Town Meeting of Youth, sponsored by the American Youth Congress as they paraded down Fourteenth Street to the Washington Monument, Saturday evening. At the base of the monument they were addressed by Representative Vito Marcantonio, Laborite member of the Congress from New York City.

The delegates had already had plenty of experience with the flagrant jim crow practices of the District of Columbia. A white girl was refused the right to board a Premier Cab, license number 20-095, by the driver, who stated that he was not going to ride any "n....r lovers" in his cab. A white newspaperman sought to ascertain of the manager of the company if he had issued any such orders. He denied having done so but refused to discuss the incident any further.

Following the parade on Saturday, Robert Moore, of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, CIO, entered a Thompson's Restaurant. The management asked him to eat in the rear, which he refused to do. The management asked him to leave and the entire group of whites, 200 in all, left with him refusing to pay for the meals they had already been served.

FEB 15 1941

A Negro student delegate from New York University entered the Cairo Hotel to visit a party of fellow white delegates who were stopping there. After he was in the room of his friends, the white elevator boy asked him to leave quietly in order to avert any disturbance. Instead the whole group left for the dining room, where they were balked by the woman manager and threatened with bodily ejection.

At the Union Terminal, a white cab starter sought to prevent a group of white delegates from entering a cab driven by a colored driver. When they insisted, he told them that they took the risk of not arriving at their destination, when they role in a "n.....r" cab.

Another incident took place on Sunday morning on the Capitol grounds, when two classmates from New Jersey, a white girl and a colored man were strolling through the grounds. They were taken into custody by the Capitol Police, abused and later freed. The officers asked the girl, why she did not marry the "n.....r" since she "loved him so much?"

The delegates retaliated against jim crow antics of the capital by picketing the Willard Hotel, which had refused lodging to Negro delegates, and the Palace Lunch which had refused to serve Negroes, on Sunday afternoon with a picket line of 200 persons each. The delegations were unmolested by the police as they shouted for a half hour "Old Jim Crow Must Go."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Youth Demonstrate Against D.C. Jim Crow

FEB 15 1941

WASHINGTON

Members of the American Youth Congress staged three protest demonstrations against racial discrimination in connection with their Town Meeting of Youth held at Turner's Arena last week-end.

The first two demonstrations, aimed at Washington's jim crow which prevents the accommodation of colored persons in the city's hotels and restaurants, consisted of picket lines thrown about a downtown hotel and a Fourteenth Street lunchroom.

Sunday afternoon traffic in the vicinity of Fourteenth and U Streets, Northwest, and of Fourteenth and Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest, became badly snarled as motorists and pedestrians stopped to watch the two groups which marched up and down bearing placards and chanting, "Jim Crow Must Go" and "Pass the Civil Rights Bill."

Picket War Dept.

Both of these picket lines were short-lived, however, as the delegates who composed them left after about an hour to return to the arena for the final sessions of the conference.

On Monday, however, several hundred of the delegates remained in the city to picket the War Department because of its jim crow policies in the nation's armed forces.

Eating Places Listed

All delegates, upon registering for the conference, were presented instruction sheets informing them of the jim crow conditions in lodging and eating places in the city and listing the eating places in the vicinity which served both races.

To eliminate any housing difficulties, members of the conference housing committee reported that they made arrangements for the delegates to stay in the homes of residents of the city before the sessions opened.

Army Jim Crow Scored

Conference speakers were loud in voicing their disapproval of discrimination in the army, navy, NYA, WPA, and defense industries.

FEB 15 1941

Fred Keller, veteran of the Lincoln Brigade which served in the Spanish Civil War, was outspoken in his condemnation of the former type of discrimination, declaring that although only 10 per cent of the enrollment of the Lincoln Brigade was colored, colored officers constituted 30 per cent of the unit's leadership.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

FEB 14 1941

Mrs. Roosevelt Costs Youth Congress an Ally

Omaha, Neb., Feb. 13 [Special].—To a question from the floor at the State Farmers' union convention today as to why the union has no representation from the American Youth congress, President H. G. Keeney replied: "Eleanor [Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt] has had some experience with them. I have not favored any affiliation." The convention shouted approval.

FEB 15 1941

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

No Race Lines as AYC Pickets March

FEB 15 1941

FEB 15 1941

With no thought of racial lines, approximately 5,000 colored and white members of the American Youth Congress marched down Fourteenth Street to the Washington Monument, Saturday, where Congressman Vito Marcantonio, of New York, addressed the marchers. The congress met here last week to protest the Lend-Lease Bill. As they marched, members of the parade shouted, "Old Jim Crow Must Go" and "Johnny Wants a Job, Not a Gun." A section of the parade isshown above.—McNeill Photo.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

These young people led the youth parade in Washington on Saturday. The parade started at Fourteenth and V Streets, Northwest, and ended at the Sylvan Theatre on the Mall, where the group was addressed by Congressman Vito Marcantonio. Second from the left is Ed Strong, president of the Southern Negro Youth Congress and on his left is Jack McMichael, president of the American Youth Congress.

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afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Aid Bill Attacks Rouse Town Meeting Crowd

FEB 15 1941

Youth Congress Event, Barred from Departmental Auditorium, Fails to Draw U.S. Dignitaries to Arena

WASHINGTON

More than 2,000 persons pres ent at Turner's Arena for th opening of the American Youth Congress Town Meeting fo Youth were transformed into a noisily partisan rabble, Friday night, in the wake of speeches condemning the Lend-Lease Bill delivered by John P. Davis, National Negro Congress secretary, and Michael J. Quill, Irish-American trade unionist.

The meeting, first of the three-day session, was attended by youth delegates and sympathizers from all sections of the country. Additional delegates arrived throughout Friday night and Saturday.

Braving sub-freezing temperatures on Saturday evening, more than 5,000 of them paraded from the Arena, in Northwest Washington, to the Washington Monument, where they were addressed by Congressman Vito Marcantonio, labor representative from New York.

Dignitaries Missing

Unlike last year's assembly of the AYC, when Mrs. Roosevelt and other representatives of the administration lent their support, this year's meeting had only the New York Congressman as the sole person in what might be considered official Washington co-operating.

Members of the House and Senate Foreign Relations Committees who had been invited to attend the opening night's meeting were all absent.

Drastic Change in Setting

Instead of the meeting being held in the rent-free, spacious comfort of the Departmental Auditorium, as was the case last year, the sessions were held in an arena which is usually the scene of wrestling and boxing bouts and basketball games.

Several references were made to this fact by speakers who declared that it was only fitting that "a group fighting for its right should meet in an arena customarily used for fights."

Housing Problem Faced

Housing for the less affluent of the delegates also presented a problem. Many of those who attended last year were fed and housed during their stay at various army posts. This year, they were housed at the homes of private individuals and in hotels.

A collection for the aid of these delegates was taken up at the first night's meeting, under the leadership of Ed Strong, Southern Negro Youth Congress leader.

FEB 15 1941

$350 Fund Collected

Following Strong's appeal, delivered in true old-country revival style, the ushers were hard put to collect all of the cash offered. Three or four delegations contributed $15 to $33 each. A number of others contributed from $1 to $10 each.

Delegations from Harvard and Yale each responded to the appeal with contributions of $5. At the close of the meeting it was announced that more than $3 had been collected.

Mr. Davis drew tumultous applause with a vigorous attack upon the Lend-Lease Bill and upon those who declared that its passage was essential to the salvation of democracy.

Scare Tactics Charged

He charged the War Department, the Administration and supporters of the bill with using scare tactics in order to insure its passage.

FEB 15 1941

He declared that they preached that the invasion threat was so great as to warrant a black-out of civil liberties and all of the gains made by labor during the past few years, but that it was not sufficient to warrant the flying of bombing and fighting planes by colored soldiers and sailors.

Racial Bars Still Up

Further, he said, the need for new planes was so great as to warrant a speed-up of industry, long working hours and the nullification of all laws passed for protection of the workers, but that it was not great enough for industry to use colored workers in the manufacture of them.

Officials of the AYC stated that 4,400 delegates had registered, but that there were hundreds in the city attending the conference who had not registered as delegates. Of these, it was estimated, about 950 were colored.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Youth Group Backs Bill To Prohibit Discrimination

MAR 22 1941

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Continuing its fight to wipe out discrimination against the Negro people and other minorities, the American Youth Congress is sponsoring Federal legislation which would penalize "any person administering any agency supported in whole or in part with funds appropriated by the United States Congress who discriminates against any individual because of such individual's race, color, or creed." The bill is being introduced in the House of Representatives by Vito Marcantonio, American Labor Party Congressman from New York.

MAR 22 1941

Although equal opportunity for all is theoretically guaranteed by both the words and the spirit of the U. S. Constitution, the Youth Congress has received evidence of wide-spread discrimination in public agencies and in plants awarded Government contracts. Protest against each case reported has been registered through the local youth councils working together in the Youth Congress.

Globe and
Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

AYC OFFERS BILL TO CURTAIL JOB DISCRIMINATION

Youth Group Seeks to Impose Fines on Biased Contractors

MAR 21 1941

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Continuing its fight to wipe out discrimination against the Negro people and other minorities, the American Youth Congress is sponsoring Federal legislation which would penalize "any person administering any agency supported in whole or in part with funds appropriated by the United States Congress who discriminates against any individual because of such individual's race, color or creed." Drafted by the Washington Bureau of the American Youth Congress, the bill is being introduced in the House of Representatives by Vito Marcantonio, American Labor Party Congressman from New York.

Although equal opportunity for all is theoritically guaranteed by both the words and the spirit of the U. S. Constitution, the Youth Congress has received evidence of wide-spread discrimination in public agencies and in plants awarded Government contracts. Protest against each case reported has been registered through the local youth councils working together in the Youth Congress. However, these local protests have produced only partial results because there is at the present time, no penalty for such discrimination. It is therefore necessary to launch a nation-wide campaign for the passage of this bill which will make it possible to bring cases of discrimination into the courts and impose fines on violators of the law.

Penalties for discrimination described in the bill include both dismissal of people administering public agencies and fines for these administrators as well as for corporations with Government contracts. Passage of the measure will give the Youth Congress and other civic organizations a weapon with which to fight current discrimination in the Army and Navy, as well as in the "defense training" program and in the awarding of jobs by industries which have received Government contracts.

MAR 21 1941

Organizations of all types, adult as well as youth, are urged by the AYC to join in this campaign for passage of the bill and are invited to write to the Youth Congress office, 230 Fifth Avenue, New York City, or to Congressman Marcantonio for further information about the campaign.

New Masses
New York, N. Y.

The Youth Speak Up

IN THEIR declaration of support to all peoples attacked by Hitlerism, the 1,200 delegates to the Seventh American Youth Congress gave a demonstration of purpose, unanimity, and enthusiasm that would be hard to beat. Spokesmen of the many groups comprising the AYC —Jewish and Christian, trade union, student, Negro, among others—spoke also for the 5,500,000 membership represented in the congress when they said in various words, "Stop Hitler! Full aid to the people of Britain and the USSR." NEW MASSES will shortly carry a full article on the congress. The best we can do in the space of an editorial is to touch on its most meaningful features. An outstanding one was the harmony of the meeting. These young people, and there were delegates from some 800 local and national organizations, united on a program of both foreign and domestic policy embracing a multitude of programs: friendship and collaboration with the Latin American peoples; aid to China; against racial discrimination, anti-labor measures, domestic [illegible]m of any kind; for proper housing, health, and recreational facilities for conscripts.

JUL 15 1941

A resolution opposing an AEF was adopted after considerable discussion, many expressing concern that American troops might be used for imperialist rather than anti-fascist purposes. The Young Communist League abstained from voting on this resolution, its spokesman, John Gates, pointing out that with the changed character of the war, all measures, economic, political and military, were required to defeat Hitlerism.

JUL 1 5 1941

Perhaps delegates will remember, more than anything else at the congress, the truly stirring message to the youth of the world, which ends with a call to a World Congress of Youth. Yes, a *world* congress—even in a world fearfully disrupted by war. For American youth, like those of other lands, know how to surmount the physical forces of disruption, to build a solidarity which will endure against *panzerdivisionen* and bombs.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Youth Congress Opens With Big Rally Tonight

Marcantonio to Speak at Meeting; Robeson Guest of Honor; Miss Margesson Exit Visa Gained; McMichael to Keynote Philadelphia Parley

From every part of the country delegates are converging upon Philadelphia for the Seventh American Youth Congress, which opens this evening and will continue throughout the week-end.

Representing almost 1,000 different organizations the young people will face the knotty problems of determining their policy for the coming year and planning the major campaigns.

The Congress will open with a mass public rally at Philadelphia's Town Hall tonight where Paul Robeson will be guest of honor and Congressman Vito Marcantonio the chief speaker. Philadelphians are expected to turn out in great numbers to welcome the youthful visitors to their city.

At Youth Congress headquarters it was announced that every effort is being made to insure the presence of Miss Jean Margesson, daughter of British War Minister Captain David Margesson, at the meeting. Miss Margesson has been elected by the British youth movement to attend the 7th American Youth Congress.

A cable from Miss Margesson on Tuesday evening informed Congress officials that she had been successful in gaining an exit permit from England and secured passage by plane to Lisbon. Negotiations with the United States State Department which controls the Transatlantic Clipper were continuing, Congress officials said.

The State Department had previously said that if Miss Margesson could get to Lisbon she would be given preference on the Transatlantic Clipper.

Also speaking to tonight's meeting will be a representative of the Canadian Youth Congress, representatives of the Chinese Y.M.C.A. and fraternal delegates from Latin America and India.

Originally scheduled to take place at the Stephen Girard Hotel, the plenary sessions have now been moved to Philadelphia's Town Hall because of reports from the field of much larger delegations than previously expected.

Great interest centers around the discussion of foreign policy which will take place on Saturday morning and where it is expected that there will be a lively discussion of events in the international field that have taken place in the last year.

Jack McMichael, young theological student from Georgia who is chairman of the Youth Congress will deliver the keynote address on Friday morning.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

AMERICAN YOUTH CONGRESS STATEMENT ON WAR MOVE

DEC 21 1941

NEW YORK, Dec. 18—Full support of American youth to the Government in the war emergency was pledged this week by the American Youth Congress in a special statement released by Jack R. McMichael, Jr., national chairman and Frances M. Williams, executive secretary from the headquarters of the national American Youth Congress. All youth were urged to "take the posts" in the armed forces, civilian defense units, or in the battle to increase production in industry and agriculture for the national defense.

Declaring that this war "is a continuation of the policy of aggression and enslavement waged by Japan against the Chinese people, and by Hitler against the people of the world," the AYC stated that "our nation will not find the young men and young women of America wanting. We stand in firm resolve behind the policies of our government in all measures required by the defense of our country."

The statement in full is:

"The issue of war or peace has been finally resolved for America. Japan, co-partner of Hitler, has decared war upon our nation, launched a treacherous military attack against us. This is a continuation of the policy of aggression and enslavement waged against the peace-loving and courageous Chinese people since 1931 and by Hitler against the people of the world.

"Patriotic America will rise as one man to the defense of our security and freedom from the powers of tyranny that are attempting to enslave the entire world. The long series of aggressions by the Axis powers against peace-loving peoples of Europe, Asia and Africa have now reached this nation and Hemphisphere in their full and desperate fury. The entire world is engulfed in one gigantic conflict in which there are but two sides: that of freedom and justice; the other enslavement, tyranny and aggression.

"This is not a racial war. To the defense of the United States young people of all races and national backgrounds are rallying. Among our allies are the heroic Chinese people. This is a war not against the Japanese people, but against the military regime which enslaves them, and which seeks with Hitler to enslave the entire world.

Freedom-loving Americans will rally unhesitatingly to the defense of liberty for which our nation stands. But today liberty must be dearly bought. Its price is the united struggle of the peoples fighting side by side to end forever the threat of aggression by Hitler and his Tokio henchmen.

"Together with the great body of American labor, with every truly patriotic citizen, we pledge that our Government, our nation will not find the young men and the young women of America wanting. We stand in firm resolve behind the policies of our Government in all measures required by the defense of our country. Our labor, talent and skill will be made available without stint so that the Battle for Production shall be won and the materials of war produced for our own armed forces, for Great Britain, the Soviet Union, China and all nations fighting to end slavery. Our efforts will not be found wanting in the armed forces upon which our defense so clearly rests. The grave peril to our country will call forth ever-greater participation by the youth in the civilian defense program.

"National unity is our most urgent need. It must not and shall not be weakened by Nazi Fifth Columnists, by treachery in any disguise, by the appeasers whose policies have been so disastrous. National unity must be safeguarded and strengthened by assuring the full and equal participation of all citizens—Negro and white, native and loyal foreign-born in the entire national effort.

"American labor—its patriotism proven——will be a deciding force for victory. The rights of labor to organize and bargain collectively need to be preserved at home to insure victory abroad. This means that the Hitlerite Smith bill and all other anti-labor legislation must be defeated. They can serve only to disunite the country, cripple the labor movement and sabotage the all-essential defense program. The full and immediate cooperation of labor, industry, of Government—of all the people—in one common effort is the only safeguard of our future.

Youth of America: in the schools, in the churches and synagogues, offices, industries, fields, armed forces—

our whole future, that of our country, of democracy, depends upon our action today. We can no longer debate our course; the aggressors have determined it. United, we must mobilize all of our energies, our skills, at once to defend our ideals, our country.

the American youth Congress urges each and every young man and young woman to take his post in support of the Government's program against Hitler and Hitlerism in every form;

. . . . for immediate and intensive training and service in the armed forces

. . . for diligent training in the schools to help mobilize America's resources quickly and completely

. . . . for every effort for increased production in every factory, office, field

. . . . for alert, conscientious training and service in the civilian defense program.

We pledge our allegiance. Now we must mobilize to carry it out in this hour of our country's need.

41-1941
Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

YOUTH CONGRESS URGES PRESIDENT TO AID 4 MILLION

JAN 11 1941

Says Opportunity is "Empty Phrase" unless Youth Act is Passed

In a letter addressed to President Roosevelt, this week, the American Youth Congress through its executive secretary, Joseph Cadden, said that if the American Youth Act, designed to aid 4,000,000 young Americans, is not passed by Congress "equality of opportunity for youth will remain an empty phrase."

JAN 11 1941

The letter follows:

"We are gratified that in your Message to Congress you place first, among the basic things expected by a people in a democracy, 'Equality of opportunity for youth and for others.' This is the principle to which the American Youth Congress is dedicated.

"In order to realize it, we have, as you know, sponsored the American Youth Act to provide work and training opportunities for the 4,000,000,000 unemployed young Americans. In the interest of that equality of opportunity which you have placed first on your list, we urge you to endorse this Bill and to advise Congress to act favorably upon it. Unless this is done, 'aquality of opportunity for youth' will remain an empty phrase.

JAN 11 1941

Practical Measures First

"Unless such pratical measures as the Youth Act are placed first on the agenda, young people will continue to hold the impression that you are more eager to send Britain "ships, planes, tanks, guns" than to meet the pressing needs of Americans.

JAN 11 1941

"Your championship of 'the preservation of civil liberties for all' is of equal concern to all young Americans. They will want to know, however, how this position you have taken gibes with your remark that 'the sovereignity of government will be used to save government' from those who do not happen to agree completely with your policies. This threat will hardly further that 'freedom from fear' advocated in your Message."

Southern News
Almanac
Birmingham, Ala.

Southern Young People Getting Ready To Attend American Youth Congress

Young people in the South, from Florida to Texas, are getting their things together for a long trek now—they're going to Philadelphia, for the Seventh American Youth Congress, July 3-7. They're going to meet with young people from all over the country—even some visitors from foreign lands—to tell them what things are like below the poll-tax wage-differential line, where Jim Crow divides the people and beats them both down.

JAN 9 1941

Negro and white, boys and girls, working and farming, studying and church-going, they all have their part to play in this great movement of five million young people. In Philadelphia they will map plans for a fight to protect the right to strike, to wipe out the poll-tax, to help the boys in conscript camps, to apply Christian ideals, to defeat the conscription of young women, and to get the country out of war.

LARGE DELEGATION

A large delegation is expected from the Southern youth movement, which is new, but growing rapidly with the support of organized labor. Edward E. Strong, Southern Negro Youth Congress Executive Secretary, will be chief reporter at the Jobs Session; Sidney Rittenberg, Executive Secretary of the League of Young Southerners, will give the [illegible] report at the Civil Liberties meeting; Esther Cooper, SNYC officer, will co-chair the Peace Panel. Out of the fighting plans this Congress makes, young Southerners hope something better will come than sow-belly and corn syrup, and something more secure than a trip to Flanders Fields.

All people, young or old, who want to go, either as delegates from their organizations or as visitors, are urged to contact the League of Young Southerners, 414 Exchange

Birmingham, Ala. or the SNYC, 624 Masonic Temple Building, Birmingham.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

American Youth Congress Protests Jim Crow

Contingents Of N. Y. A. Workers In Parade

FEB 8 1941

"Put an end to Jim Crow in the National Youth Administraion is the demand of the American Youth Congress, expressed in a letter to Aubrey Williams National Youth Administrator.

The letter, signed by Joseph Cadden, executive secretary of the American Youth Congress, referred to the Jim-Crow NYA contingent in the recent Inaugural Parade as a "disgrace to NYA", and a "practice which outraged every young person who watched or heard about the parade."

Negro and white NYA workers were ordered to march in separate line in the parade, white young people dressed in blue uniforms, the Negroes in red.

"We have heard a good deal about national unity," Mr. Cadden said. "But how can we have national unity when government agencies themselves continue their efforts to separate young people by discriminating against Negroes."

Mr. Cadden said that the Town Meeting of Youth which the American Youth Congress is sponsoring in Washington on February 7, 8 and 9th will consider what action shall be taken to put an end to Jim Crow in the army, the vocational training program and NYA.

He urged young people of every race, color and creed to attend the Town Meeting either as a representative of an organization or as an individual, and to show the people of America that "there is unity among all young people despite the efforts of people in high places to create bigotry and prejudice."

The Town Meeting will bring together several thousand young people from all parts of the nation to discuss their common problems.

The American Youth Congress had recently succeeded in getting Dr. John Studebaker, U. S. Commissioner of Education to inform his State Directors that under the law there could be no discrimination in the vocational training program.

FEB 8 1941

"We will not stop there", Cadden said. "The American Youth Congress, at the Town Meeting, will see to it that this law is observed and will fight against discrimination wherever it affects young people."

Such organizations as the Youth Section of the NAACP, the Southern Negro Youth Congress and the National Negro Congress will participate in the Town Meeting Of Youth.

Edward Strong, secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, will deliver the main address on the international scene and America's foreign policy. He will discuss the lend-lease bill now before Congress.

The Washington Youth Council is at present conducting a campaign to find 2,000 free housing facilities for young people coming to the Town Meeting who will be unable to pay for housing.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Youth Group's Town Meeting Opens Today

FEB 7 1941

The vanguard of delegations expected to bring more than 3,000 persons began to arrive in Washington last night for the opening today of the Town Meeting of Youth of the American Youth Congress.

Officers of the congress kept a staff on duty all night in the John Wesley Church, 1615 Fourteenth Street Northwest, to register delegates as they arrived by automobile, chartered bus and train from all sections of the Nation.

The problem of housing delegates was virtually solved last night when officers of the congress announced they had secured free accommodations for 600 persons and had arranged to shelter 2,400 in hotels and rooming houses at an average of 75 cents a night. An attempt was to have been made to locate 600 additional rooms in expectation that total attendance might be higher than 3,000.

The first act of the delegates today will be to move on to Capitol Hill to outline their opposition to the lend-lease bill and their views on other measures to members of the House and Senate.

The first session of the congress will be an open hearing on the lend-lease bill at 8 p. m. today at Turner's Arena, 1341 W Street Northwest. Members of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House and of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate have been invited to attend.

FEB 7 1941

A torch-light parade, starting at 4 p. m. from Fourteenth and W Streets Northwest and moving to the Washington Monument, will feature tomorrow's activities.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

AID BILL ATTACKED BY YOUTH CONGRESS

Brief for Senate Read at First Session, Says It 'Drags' Nation Into War and Dictatorship

FEB 8 1941

ALL SPEAKERS ASSAIL IT

J. P. Lash Protests Procedure at Capital and Defends Legislation as Saving Democracy

By WINIFRED MALLON
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7—The lease-lend bill was denounced and its defeat demanded by the American Youth Congress, which opened tonight three-day sessions here.

In a brief prepared for presentation tomorrow to the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations the congress held peace "the best defense of American democracy" and objected to the bill as designed to establish a dictatorship at home in the name of destroying one abroad.

As submitted at the opening session by Jack McMichael, chairman of the congress, the statement set forth that the United States had abandoned neutrality for "an active war alliance with Great Britain" and "this bill will drag us all the way into the war."

Fear of Executive Power

Asserting opposition to "Hitlerism," it continued:

"That is exactly why we oppose this bill which under the guise of defeating Hitler institutes a dictatorship in our own country.

"This is just what the lease-lend bill proposes to do. Its avowed aim is to defend democracy. Yet it gives to the President powers that any fascist dictator might well envy.

"The American Youth Congress, therefore, opposes this bill as an act of war and as a measure for the establishment of military dictatorship in the United States.

"Don't lease or lend our lives. Defeat this bill."

Following this presentation, four speakers "testified" in opposition to the bill at a "hearing" arranged by the Washington Youth Council.

The speakers were the Rev. Owen A. Knox, chairman of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties; Frederick Field, executive secretary of the American Peace Mobilization; John P. Davis, executive secretary of the National Negro Congress, and Michael J. Quill of the Transport Workers Union.

Herbert Witt, executive secretary of the American Student Union, acted as interlocutor.

The views expressed and the "set-up" of the meeting were denounced by Joseph P. Lash, one of the four dissenting members of the cabinet.

In a statement issued "so that the Youth Congress declarations will not go out as representative of all youth," he defended the lease-lend bill as "the strongest implementation of the three principles of democratic defense."

These he defined as "an all inclusive national defense; full support to all peoples everywhere who are resisting aggression and thereby keeping war away from our hemisphere; no acquiescence in a peace dictated by aggressors."

He asserted that the opposition of the Youth Congress was not in reality to "war dictatorship," as alleged, but to the aid of England which the bill would provide.

Mr. Lash protested the arrangement whereby only opponents of the bill spoke tonight, calling it an "undemocratic" procedure designed to "prevent all points of view from being heard."

Officials of the Youth Congress, however, said that Mr. Lash would have full opportunity to express his views later.

FEB 8 1941

500 Sing National Anthem

Tonight's meeting in Turner's Arena, it was stated, was largely preliminary, as only 500 members have yet arrived of the 3,000 who are expected to be on hand for the regular sessions beginning tomorrow morning.

The arena was decorated with banners and two huge American flags, and the proceedings began with the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner," led by Peter Sager of Ithaca, N. Y., playing on his guitar.

During the day members of the Youth Congress called on their Senators and members of the House of Representatives to protest personally against passage of the lend-lend bill.

Mrs. Roosevelt to Shun A.Y.C. Over Stand on Foreign Policy

FEB 3 1941

World-Telegram

By the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt said today she would not participate in forthcoming meetings of the American Youth Congress because of its attitude on American foreign policy.

President and Mrs. Roosevelt both addressed delegates last year. Mrs. Roosevelt also attended many of the sessions and had youth leaders as guests at the White House.

New York, N.Y.

At her conference, she said she did not intend to do any of these things this year.

Discussing the aims of the groups, Mrs. Roosevelt said she was in agreement with their attitude on the things they want to see accomplished for young people, "but I am not in agreement with their attitude on our foreign policy, which I consider fundamental to achieving the things they want accomplished in this country. I could not participate in the meeting and seem to be in agreement with them."

FEB 3 1941

She said she did not think the stand taken at their Lake Geneva, Wis., conference last summer—opposition to aid for England and to selective service—was realistic.

Mrs. Roosevelt said that a person may not agree with everything England has done. But when one is in a world in which one has to co-operate the decision is whether to co-operate with the Axis or England.

She was asked whether she thought the Congress' attitude reflected the Communist Party line. She replied that she felt that some of the members were dominated by Communists, but that there were others who were sincere.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Fight Capital Jim Crow on Town Meeting

FEB 7 1941

Vice President Wallace Ducks Youth Congress Demand for Action

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 6.—In a setting of large-scale discrimination against Negro delegates, by the city preparations for the town meeting of youth called by the American Youth Congress which opens here tomorrow night were being completed today.

AYC leaders found that the color line was being rigidly drawn in the Jim Crow Capital, and they were encountering considerable difficulty in finding adequate hotel and housing facilities for Negro delegates.

Uppermost on the agenda of the town meeting which is expected to attract an attendance of more than 3,000 youth from trade union, church, and community groups will be opposition to the President's war power bill.

FEB 7 1941

Representatives of the AYC have asked House and Senate Committees for permission to testify against the lend-lease measure which was assailed recently by the AYC cabinet as "a more deadly and certain path to plowing under every fourth boy than the Morgan loans of 1917."

To protest the discrimination against Negro delegates, a delegation visited Vice President Henry Wallace at the Capitol and asked him to step into the picture.

WALLACE MUM

Demands made to Wallace by the delegation were following:

First, that he intervene in the situation by providing government owned facilities for Negro delegates.

Second, that he support a bill to make it unlawful for business establishments in the District of Columbit to discriminate against Negroes or other minorities.

Wallace refused to make any definite commitments to the group, and it is understood that he is passing the buck by referring the AYC request on to "appropriate" government agencies.

Members of the delegation which conferred with Wallace incdluded Joseph Cadden, AYC secretary, Doxey Wilkerson of the National Negro Congress, Eugene Davidson of the Washington Civil Rights Committee, Morris Tepping of the Washington Youth Council, Altheus Hunton of the Howard Teachers Union, Mrs. Harriet Glazer of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action and Louis William of the Street Pavement Workers Union.

FEB 7 1941

While the delegations received little satisfaction from Vice President Wallace, the AYC reported that it was making headway in finding adequate housing for Negro delegates through the cooperation of Negro ministers who have in some cases asked their congregations to help.

HALL REFUSED

AYC leaders have not only been confronted with the problem of housing for Negro delegates, but also encountered serious difficulties in finding a hall for their town meeting.

Due to AYC opposition to the Roosevelt Administration's war program, the Department of Labor auditorium which was available for the youth pilgrimage last February was not available this year.

In addition, Mrs. Roosevelt and other administration spokesmen refused to address the town meeting to present their point of view on the war and the youth.

Despite this obstacles, AYC leaders said that reports to date indicate that attendance at the town meeting will equal or exceed similar AYC gatherings and will include broad representations from youth groups in every section of the country.

FEB 7 1941

The town meeting program will open with a mass meeting in Turner's Arena tomorrow night which will take the form of an open hearing at which organizations which have been denied a chance to testify before House and Senate Committees will be heard.

Members of the House and Senate Foreign Affairs Committees have been invited to attend, and empty chairs will be left for them on the platform if they fail to show up.

"Witnesses" at the meeting will include Jack McMichael, Chairman of the AYC, Michael Quill, President of the Transport Workers Union and John P. Davis, Secretary of the National Negro Congress. Herbert Witt, Secretary of the American Student Union, will act as interlocutor.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

Leftist Youth Groups

FEB 5 1941

Mrs. Roosevelt, in the past, has been unjustly criticized, we believe, because she overlooked some of the faults of the radical youth movements. Perhaps Mrs. Roosevelt was slow to lose patience with the American Youth Congress because she, as an experienced worker among young people, knew that it often requires patience to lead young people along the right paths.

But there is an end to patience, even for as cool-headed and sympathetic a lady as Mrs. Roosevelt. The American Youth Congress persisted in its radical tendencies and left the First Lady so far behind that she refused to address the group which meets this week.

Mrs. Roosevelt probably knew all along that the youth organization was too far to the left; that it was filled with impractical youngsters seeking strange new roads; that the young men and women were on the wrong path. But, after all, young people often are wrong and need only a sympathetic hand and a matured mind to help them over the bumps!

The American Youth Congress, however, finally got too far out of hand even for the sympathetic Mrs. Roosevelt. At last she has washed her hands of that particular organization—but not of young people and their problems.

The American Youth Congress appears to be controlled by Communists and misguided individuals who are not willing to work within the framework of our American democracy. But most of the young people now under the influence of the radical elements of the group probably will see the light sooner or later.

As it stands, of course, the American Youth Congress is far from representative of America's young people. There are scores of conservative, patriotic organizations that have many times as many members, and there are other thousands of young people who are not affiliated with organizations, but who believe firmly in the underlying principles of our democracy.

FEB 5 1941

We need not fear the American Youth Congress and similar leftist organizations so long as the great majority of America's young men are eager to serve their country in any capacity, including the bearing of arms.

If the Youth Congress makes a few unpleasant headlines within the next few days—and it doubtless will—just remember that there are thousands of American young men this minute wearing uniforms and learning how to defend our way of life. You can see them at army camps in nearly every state.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Negro Problems To Be Featured At Youth's Town Hall Meeting

JAN 30 1941

YOUTH CONGRESS SPONSORS PARLEY IN WASHINGTON

FLINT, Mich.—(SNS)—

A call to all young people, "organized and unorganized, urban and rural, Negro and white" to gather in Washington for a nationwide "Town Meeting of Youth" on February 7, 8 and 9th has been issued by the American Youth Congress.

Pointing out that Negroes are jim-crowed in the armed forces and in the defense industries, and that the anti-lynching and anti-poll tax bills are ignored by Congress and the Administration, the Youth Congress asks young people to come to Washington to discuss these problems and to make known their views to the nation.

The Call to the Town Meeting notes that over four million young people remain unemployed and that available jobs are closed to many because training is limited and practically denied to Negroes.

CARRYING ON CAMPAIGN

The Youth Congress has been carrying on a campaign to withhold government contracts to firms which refuse to hire Negroes.

The Call to the Town Meeting notes that the Bill of Rights is being violated and that "on atmosphere of officially encouraged war hysteria brings persecution and restriction of the rights of political and racial minorities and the foreign born."

"Our Americanism faces the crucial test of protecting and extending our democratic heritage, or yielding to dictatorship and war."

"Peace time military conscription," the Call to the Town Meeting asserts, "is taking men from normal life into army camps."

"Their general welfare must be protected, the return of their jobs guaranteed; jim-crowism in the army must be ended."

As an alternative to conscription and proposals for forced labor, the American Youth Congress proposes the American Youth Act which would give jobs and training ot young people regardless of race, color or creed.

Stating that the gains made by labor are being attacked, the Youth Congress asserts that "no nation can be strong if standards of hours, wages and working conditions for labor, including women workers, are abandoned."

FREE DISCUSSION

"In this Town Meeting of Youth," the Call points out, "there will be free discussion and a pooling of opinions and experiences. Young America can help work out the solutions to its problems and place its united strength at the service of our country to keep out of war, protect the welfare of conscripts, win jobs and training for all youth, and defend civil liberities for all."

The young people note the threat to peace of "a long series of un-neutral acts that have already involved the United States as a non-belligerent in the European war."

"Unless the American people halt them, the unauthorized commitments, the proposals for war loans, the mounting war profits and a war economy will shatter the last frail barriers that protect our peace," the Call to the Town Meeting says.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Plan Youth Town Meeting In Washington

FEB 8 1941

Separation In Inaugural Parade Cited In Complaint

WASHINGTON, D. C.—"Put an end to Jim Crow in the National Youth Administration" is the demand of the American Youth Congress, expressed in a letter received by Aubrey Williams, national youth administrator here recently.

The letter, signed by Joseph Cadden, executive secretary of the American Youth Congress, referred to the Jim-Crow NYA contingent in the President's inaugural parade as a "disgrace to NYA" and a "practice which outraged every young person who watched or heard about the parade."

ONE BLUE, OTHER RED

Negro and white NYA workers were ordered to march in separate line in the parade—white young people dressed in blue uniforms, the Negroes in red.

"We have heard a good deal about national unity," Mr. Cadden said. "But how can we have national unity when government agencies themselves continue their efforts to separate young people by discriminating against Negroes."

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TOWN MEETING

FEB 8 194

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The Town Meeting will bring together several thousand young people from all parts of the nation to discuss their common problems.

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FEB

"We will not stop there," Mr. Cadden said. "The American Youth Congress, at the Town Meeting, will see to it that this law is observed and will fight against discrimination wherever it affects young people."

STRONG TO SPEAK

Such Negro organizations as the youth section of the NAACP, the Southern Negro Youth Congress and the National Negro Congress will participate in the Town Meeting of youth.

Edward Strong, secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, will deliver the main address on the international scene and America's foreign policy. He will discuss the lend-lease bill now before Congress.

The Washington Youth Council is at present conducting a campaign to find 2,000 free housing facilities for young people coming to the Town Meeting who will be unable to pay for housing.

Southern News
Almanac
Birmingham, Ala.

MAGIC CITY YOUTH MEET JOE CADDEN

APR 24 1941

Program Of American Youth Congress Is Explained By Leader

Joseph Cadden, Executive Secretary of American Youth Congress visited Birmingham last Thursday, and met with fifty youth leaders in this area at the Negro YWCA.

Mr. Cadden explained three projects to which American Youth Congress is directing its attention at this time (1) aid to conscripts, (2) a national conference for industrial youth Labor Day week end, (3) giving every asistance to National anti-Poll-Tax Week, May 11-17.

Also featured on the program was Princess Fatima Massaquoi, of Liberia. She told of youth activity on the West Coast of Africa. While Liberia, is nominally a free republic, it is dominated by Great Britain and the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, which is said to work natives for wages equal to six cents per day.

APR 24 1941

Progressive African youth have strongly protested against these conditions and their leaders have recently been jaild, including Miss Massaquoi's brother.

A skit on labor was staged by the cultural committee of the League of Young Southerners, assisted by Pernell Collins of the Southern Negro Youth Congress.

Mrs. Cadden accompanied Mr. Cadden to Birmingham

Youth Congress to Assail Bill to Aid Britain; Members Roam Capital with No Place to Sleep

By the United Press.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Three thousand young men and women gathered here today for the seventh annual meeting of the American Youth Congress. Their leaders planned a vigorous condemnation of President Roosevelt's Lend-Lease bill.

Advance literature declared that its passage would "give the President dictatorial powers to suppress peace sentiment" and "lead the American people straight to full participation in war."

There were sharp contrasts between today's gathering and that of a year ago when Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt acted as the Congress hostess. Today the official welcome of the New Deal was missing.

Missing, too, were the delegates of the National Student Federation, which had been the Congress' largest affiliate. Representing 100 college student councils, the federation withdrew from the congress on Dec. 30 because of its alleged adherence to the Communist party "line."

Delegates spent weary hours tramping the streets today looking for a place to sleep, even in attics. Executive Secretary Joseph Cadden said he was unable to find lodgings for 600. Last year Mrs. Roosevelt entertained the leaders at the White House and paid for gasoline used by army trucks that took delegates to the Fort Myer Riding Hall to sleep.

The delegates will not be invited to the White House lawn, where, last year, they were admonished by President Roosevelt for some of their policies. Some of the delegates booed the President.

Speakers announced for the Lend-Lease discussion tonight include the Rev. Owen A. Knox, chairman of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties; John P. Davis, executive secretary of the National Negro Congress; Herbert Witt, executive secretary of the American Student Union, and Michael J. Quill, president of the Transport Workers' Union.

YOUNG PEOPLE OF ALL RACES, URBAN AND RURAL, TO GATHER FOR DISCUSSION OF PROBLEMS

'Jim Crow in Army and Jobs Must End', Say Young Men and Women; Propose American Youth to End Discrimination

JAN 31 1941

The Call

WASHINGTON.—A call to all young people, "organized and unorganized, urban and rural, Negro and white," to gather in Washington for a nationwide "Town meeting of Youth" on February 7, 8 and 9 has been issued by the American Youth Congress.

Pointing out that Negroes are jim-crowed in the armed forces and in the defense industries, and that the anti-lynching and anti-poll tax bills are ignored by Congress and the Administration, the Youth Congress asks young people to come to Washington to discuss these problems and to make known their views to the nation.

4 Million Unemployed

The Call to the Town Meeting notes that over four million young people remain unemployed and that available jobs are closed to many because training is limited and practically denied to Negroes.

The Youth Congress has been carrying on a campaign to withhold government contracts to firms which refuse to hire Negroes.

The Call to the Town Meeting notes that the Bill of Rights is being violated and that "an atmosphere of officially encouraged war hysteria brings persecution and restriction of the rights of political and raicial minorities and the foreign born."

Kansas City, Mo.

"Our Americanism faces the crucial test of protecting and extending our democratic heritage, or yielding to dictatorship and war."

"Peace time military conscription," the Call to the Town Meeting asserts, "is taking men from normal life into army camps."

"Their general welfare must be protected, the rights of their jobs guaranteed; jim-crowism in the army must be ended."

Suggest Alternative

As an alternative to conscription and proposals for forced labor, the American Youth Congress proposes the American Youth Act which would give jobs and training to young people regardless of race, color or creed.

The Call

Stating that the gains made by labor are being attacked, the Youth Congress asserts that "no nation can be strong if standards of hours, wages and working conditions for labor, including women workers, are abandoned."

"In this Town Meeting of Youth", the Call points out, "there will be free discussion and pooling of opinions and xeperiences. Young America can help work out the solutions to its problems and place its united strength at the service of our country to keep out of war protect the welfare of conscripts win jobs and training for all youth and defend civil liberties for all."

The young people note the threat to peace of "a long series of unneutral acts that have already involved the United States as a nonbelligernt in the European war."

"Unless the American people halt them, the unauthorized commitments, the proposal for war loans the mounting war profits and a war economy will shatter the last frail barriers that protect our peace the Call to the Town Meeting says.

The Town Meeting which will be similar to that held last year when 5,000 young people met in Washington in a Citizenship Institute was called because the Youth Congress believed that democracy can be safeguarded and extended only through the alert and vigorous activity of its citizens".

K. C., Mo.

Any yuong person, organized or unorganized, urban or rural, Negro or white, may attend the Town Meeting. Although any individuals may attend the meeting, organizations are urged to send representatives so that these representatives may report back home to dozens of young people who are unable to make the trip.

No advance registration is necessary for the Town Meeting. Delegates will register upon their arrival in Washington.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Most Young People Favor Draft And Aid to Britain, Survey Finds

FEB 8 1941

Take Stand Despite Opposition of Youth Congress, Gallup Test Indicates—90%, However, Want Us to Stay Out of the War

Despite the stand of the American Youth Congress, in session at Washington this week-end, the majority of the young people of America strongly favor the draft, aid to Britain and the principle of the lease-lend bill, according to studies of the American Institute of Public Opinion made public yesterday by Dr. George Gallup, director of the organization.

Recent surveys, he reported, indicate that only in opposing active participation in the war by the United States does the Youth Congress represent the bulk of the youth of the country.

"The Youth Congress, claiming a total represented membership running into millions, has previously denounced conscription as well as United States entrance into the war," the report continued. "At its sessions this week-end the Youth Congress is expected to go on record opposing President Roosevelt's lease-lend bill for aid to Britain.

"Like their elders, young Americans in their twenties are strongly opposed to this country going into the combat.

"In answer to the question: 'If you were asked to vote on the question of the United States entering the war against Germany and Italy, how would you vote—to go into the war or to stay out of the war?' Only 10 per cent of the young voters answered 'yes.'

"On this all-important question young Americans are even more anti-war than their elders. Yet the surveys show an overwhelming vote against war at every age level.

"Here, reported for the first time this year, is the way sentiment now divides at the major age levels:

FEB 8 1941

	Go In	Stay Out
Voters 21-29	10%	90%
Voters 30-49	15	85
Voters 50 and over	20	80
(National total, published Feb. 2)	15	85

Group of 9% Is Undecided

"The survey found a small group, averaging 9 per cent in the various age groups, saying they were undecided on the issue of war.

"Institute surveys show that on the important question of aiding Britain, and on United States conscription, the Youth Congress and the rank-and-file of American young people are likely to be leagues apart:

FEB 8 1941

"1. The Youth Congress voted overwhelmingly against conscription at its sessions in Madison, Wis., last year. But even at that time the institute's nation-wide studies found voters in their twenties more than 3 to 2 in favor of conscription. In a more recent survey designed to measure reactions to the draft as it stands, the institute asked: 'Do you think the draft is a good thing?' Voters in their twenties divided 86 per cent 'Yes,' 14 per cent 'No.'

"2. Across the United States today, institute studies testify, a majority of young people have come to regard aid to England, 'even at risk of war,' as more important right now than concentrating entirely on staying out. In the latest reported survey on this question, 68 per cent of voters in all age groups (combined) said helping England was the more important. Analysis of the vote of young people in their twenties shows 62 per cent taking this side.

"3. The vote of young people on the specific question of President Roosevelt's lease-lend bill is not yet available in the institute's returns. Nevertheless, the young people's vote in a recent survey on the principle of leasing war materials to Britain is significant. Voters in all parts of the country and all age groups were asked: 'If the British are unable to pay cash for war materials bought in this country, should our government lease war materials to the British, to be paid back in the same materials and in other goods after the war is over?' Among voters in their twenties the answers were: 'Yes,' 61 per cent, 'No,' 34 per cent, and 'undecided,' 5 per cent."

41-1941

AMERICAN YOUTH CONGRESS

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

HURRY UP
YOUTH OF AMERICA!
HITLER'S ADVANCING ARMIES THREATEN AMERICAS LIBERTY
Act Now!
FOR AID TO THE NATIONS FIGHTING
HITLER - FOR DEFENSE OF AMERICA
PASS THE LEND-LEASE APPROPRIATION - REPEAL THE NEUTRALITY ACT
Mobilize YOUTH TODAY! TOMORROW MAY BE TOO LATE
NEW YORK YOUTH CONGRESS
TH AVENUE - LEXINGTON 2-8198

OCT 17 1941

Youth Defense Rally: Strong support for President Roosevelt's foreign policies was voiced at a meeting held here Wednesday night at Manhattan Center by the New York Youth Congress. Photo above shows, left to right, Representative Vito Marcantonio, Jack McMichael, president of the American Youth Congress; John Darr, National Intercollegiate Christian Council; and Edward Strong, national organizational secretary of the AYC, seated on the platform. Below is a view of the platform with the huge banner urging action to build U. S. defenses hanging over it.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Youth Rally Cheers Call: 'We Can't Wait'

Marcantonio Demands U. S. Act; 5,000 Ask Neutrality Repeal

OCT 17 1941

The immediate opening of a Western Front against Hitler, as well as all-out aid to Britain, the Soviet Union and China were called for in a mass youth rally Wednesday night in Manhattan Center, Eighth Avenue and 34th Street.

Almost 5,000 young people at the rally, which was under the auspices of the New York Youth Congress, formally pledged **"my strength, skill, energy and my life, if need be, to the defense of my country in the common struggle of mankind to end the threat of Hitler and Hitlerism in every form."**

Congressman Vito Marcantonio, the chief speaker, told the cheering audience: **"We are now facing the Civil Wr of 1861 on an international scale. Today, the Battle of Moscow, for us, must become the Battle of Gettysburg."**

He continued: "The conquest of Madrid meant Munich. The conquest of Moscow would mean worse than Munich—it would mean our backs to the wall, fighting a power that had conquered the rest of the world."

"WE MEAN SHOOTING . . ."

"By defending our country today," he said, "we mean rushing arms, tanks, planes to the countries fighting Hitler. Yes, and we mean shooting out of the sea everybody who tries to interfere with this aid. Yes, and we mean repeal of the entire Neutrality Act."

He went on, "But we mean something more than that." And then, in a powerful climax, Congressman Marcantonio shouted: **"I know that this war is a war of defense, that it is our war, and we must participate in the establishment of a Western Front at once! We can't wait for the conquest of the Soviet Union! We can't wait for an England which becomes subject if not allied to Hitler! We can't wait for a Nazi-dominated Japan! If we wait for these, we shall have to fight alone!"**

OCT 17 1941

A radiogram of greeting from the Anti-Fascist Youth Meeting in Moscow, signed by its chairman, Hero of the Soviet Union Evgeny Fedorov, which was read from the platform, stated: **"Soviet people and its young generation, arms in hand, are destroying the Nazi cannibals. Joint action of Soviet, British and American youth against bloodthirsty fascism brings nearer the day when fredom-loving peoples of the whole world will vanquish fascism."**

ANSWER MOSCOW CABLE

The youth rally adopted an answering cable to the youth of Moscow, which read in part: **"We pledge that we will not rest until the Nazi barbarians are wiped from the earth forever."**

OCT 17 1941

Other messages adopted at the meeting included one of support addressed to United Youth for Defense; a greeting to Joe Louis, a pledge of support to the International Youth Rally in London, and a telegram sent collect to Charles A. Lindbergh informing him: "You will find no support for your fascist program among the young men and women of America."

Speakers at the rally included John Darr, of the National Collegiate Christian Council; Agnes Kessler, YWCA National Staff; Halina Chybowska, Polish Youth leader; Madison Jones, Youth Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Evelyn Shields, of the National staff of the American Women's Voluntary Services; Arthur Osman, president of Local 65, United Wholesale and Warehouse Employees, CIO; Jack MacMichael, National President of the American Youth Congress; and Jean Horie, executive secretary of the New York Youth Congress. Thomas Jones, chairman of the New York Youth Congress, acted as chairman.

OCT 17 1941

Entertainment furnished by the American Youth Theatre included the singing of "I've Got Those Red, White and Blues" by John Fleming, young Negro baritone, and the presentation of an "Appeasement Strip-Tease." Both songs were written especially for the rally by Lewis Allen.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

SO. SIDE YOUTH PLAN TREK TO WASHINGTON

In its first meeting of the New Year the South Side Council of the American Youth Congress made final plans for its annual trek to Washington, D. C. The group aims to secure one hundred delegates as representative of the South Side.

In view of the scandalous hypocrisy of inequality in the National Defense Program, lack of Job training, and job opportunities, Charles McCord, chairman of the organization urged each member to take a real responsibility in securing delegates.

The trip to the nation's capitol which will culminate in the National Town Hall meeting, February 7, 8, and 9 promises to be a splendid opportunity for young America to present its problems to the Congress of the United States.

All Racial Groups Represented

Thousands of youth from every section of the country are expected to attend. Representatives of all racial groups, religious beliefs, and political parties will be treated alike.

Specific topics listed for discussion in the call are "Keep America out of War," "Protect the Welfare of Conscriptees," "Win Jobs and Training for Negro Youth," and "Defend Civil Liberties for All."

Before and after the Town Hall Meeting delegates will have the opportunity to call upon Senators, Representatives, and Government officials to learn what they are doing, and to explain what youth proposes should be done about its problems. Young America will show that it has a year round concern for democracy.

Further information regarding the entire meeting may be obtained by contacting the downtown office of the American Youth Congress at 440 S. Dear-

Mrs. Roosevelt Declines Bid To AYC Meet

Telegraph
Macon Ga.
JAN 31 1941

WASHINGTON, [AP] — Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, who addressed the American Youth Congress here a year ago and defended it against charges of "Communist domination," has declined an invitation to speak at a gathering here next month sponsored by the congress.

Disclosing this Thursday, a congress official said that President Roosevelt, Sidney Hillman, associate defense production director; Paul V. McNutt, federal security administrator, and Philip Murray, CIO president, likewise had turned down invitations to speak at the gathering.

Joseph Cadden executive secretary of the congress, said in a statement that Mrs. Roosevelt had been asked to attend an open discussion of the administration's lend-lease bill at the first session of the town meeting of youth on February 7.

"Mrs. Roosevelt was invited to speak to the town meeting," he said, "not only because the youth desire to hear her views on public affairs but also because those of us who have had the privilege of knowing her personally have the highest regard and affection for her.

"That she has not accepted our invitation is undoubtedly due to the fact that she does not want to associate herself with our opposition to the lend-lease bill and to other measures which we believe are leading the country deeper into the war abroad and dictatorship at home."

After saying that the President, Hillman and McNutt also had declined invitations, Cadden added:

"We are sure that young people will be interested to learn that not a single leading spokesman of the administration is desirous of putting its policies to the test of free discussion before the nation-wide town meeting of youth."

President Roosevelt and John L. Lewis, former head of the CIO, spoke at the youth assembly last year. Mrs. Roosevelt addressed the gathering, answered questions from the floor, and also aided in finding lodgings for the delegates at hotels and at Fort Myer Army quarters.

A musical program was furnished by the Apollo Ensemble under the direction of Petrona Williams, Dorothy Nelle Byrd, pianist; Doris Hilliard, pianist; Carrie Wilson, Margaret Barlow and

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

MARCANTONIO'S FRIENDS

While sorrowing over the plight of the children of stricken Europe, we need waste no tears over our own war orphan, the National Youth Congress.

This aggregation was recently in session in Washington, but its leaders did not stay at the White House as they did a year ago. The organization escaped practical oblivion only by the strenuous exertions of its chairman, who attempted to address the Senate foreign affairs committee, and was ejected.

From the National Legionnaire comes the following restrained comment on radical youth in eclipse: FEB 18 1941

"The visiting and local youths put on a lengthy parade with banners carrying slogans opposed to aid for Britain, supporting an anti-lynching law, upholding the right to strike, and opposing entry into war. The affair had a close resemblance to Communist parades in New York City, with the marchers chanting slogans in chorus. They were orderly and conformed to traffic instructions from the police. An occasional bystander called out "slackers" and other unfavorable remarks, but there was no disorder. Congressman Marcantonio was apparently the only official friend of the Youth Congress, which hurled criticism at Aubrey Williams, formerly a subject of their praise. Williams is head of the National Youth Administration and apparently had followed Mrs. Roosevelt's hint of dropping his friendship for the Youth Congress. Other liberals took the same course, and the Congress, which has strong Communist membership, went along on its own."

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Youths Pledge To Fight Jim-Crow

PHILADELPHIA, July 17—More than 1000 delegates, representing a total of more than five million Negro and white young people in America met in Philadelphia last week end in the 7th American Youth Congress and mapped out a program to fight discrimination, better the welfare of draftees, and intensify their work "to protect our national interests and our security which are menaced by fascism."

Delegates from every part of the country, from churches, Y's, trade unions, farms, [illegible] organizations, and student groups pledged to work together to secure the passage of the anti-lynch bill, the Geyer anti-poll tax bill and to eliminate discrimination and segregation in war industries and public agencies.

The Youth Congress demanded that the President's Executive Order "be backed up by effective actions to eliminate all discrimination against Negroes in both Government and private employment."

Edward E. Strong of Birmingham Alabama, Secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, served as Chairman of the Resolutions Committee for the Congress and was elected by acclamation as Organizational Secretary for the coming year. Immediately following the Congress, Mr. Strong headed a delegation of Negro and white young people to Cuba where they will be the guests of the Cuban youth movement.

Negro young people, representing a wide variety of organizations participated in every aspect of the Congress, and were elected to important posts

Madison Jones, Youth Director of the NAACP; Lorraine Beale of the Chicago YWCA; Edgar Holt of the Abyssinnian Baptist Church of West Virginia; Franklyn aPtten of the Miami Negro Youth Federation; and Coleman Young of the National Negro Congress served on the Resolutions Committee.

FEB 8 1941

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okl.

American Youth Congress Has Hectic Meet; Told Group Should Have Facts

Knox Tells Group Of Many Appointments He Has Given To Negroes

Parley Held In Negro District

FEB 22 1941

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) —Pickets, riot squads, noise, parades, and jeering marked the closing days of the American Youth congress, held in a hall in the upper colored sections of Washington after the use of governmental buildings had been denied the group, although in previous years they had been welcomed with open arms by certain members of the administration when their former meetings were held in the capital city.

Berated as communists, labeled as revolutionists, the congress went its even way in the manner expected, protesting discriminations in all forms, giving vent to the feelings of the members by demonstrations against these practices and buttonholing government officials to obtain their reaction to the evil practices.

One of the officials contacted was the Secretary of War, to whom a special committee took the complaint of jim crowism in the army. They finally caught the secretary when he came out of his office en route to lunch. Flanked by a member of his press department and a stenographer Stimson told the committee:

"When you start a crusade you want to be sure of your facts otherwise without the facts you naturally don't get anywhere.

"Now I should like to say this: I am the first secretary of war to appoint a colored officer to be a brigadier general in the United States army. That is Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis.

"I am the second secretary of war who has appointed a colored person as civilian aide to the secretary of war. This is Judge Hastie, who is now serving in that capacity. And finally I am now starting the organization of a pursuit squadron to be composed of colored personnel including pilots.

"That is something that has never been done before by the war department in the organization of the army."

Other charges against the congress have been filed by former members of the group who have placed in the hands of congressmen, statements that the organization is communist and supported by members of that party.

Riot squads, police and disturbances were frequent at 14th and U streets, where for years a restaurant maintained for white only proved the one point the congress wished to typify. Refusing to serve colored members of the group, the cafeteria was picketed and boycotted, but not until after a disturbance had been created in the place. Then the delegates flocked to nearby colored establishments where they could sit with their colored friends and eat.

During the parade Sunday, as the group passed a corner, a colored youth standing on the street yelled, "Not an American in the crowd," which was a signal for one of the paraders to rush out and attack the youth. The visitor was arrested for assault.

One of the highlights of the Sunday afternoon session was the speech by Max Hudicourt, young Haitian, who in the course of his speech pointed out the aid HHaiti had rendered great causes, including the American revolution when a regiment of Haitians fought as volunteers on American soil especially at the battle of Savannah. He also spoke of conditions and relations existing today between America and Haiti.

"At the first Pan-American conference in Panama in 1883 the Haitian delegation was not seated, at the instigation of the American delegation, because it was a delegation of Negroes.

"The famous Monroe doctrine, instrument for the subjugation of nations, has been used only to exploit the credulity of our people. The German government had frequently humiliated us by sending battleships to our ports to exact unjustified reparations. We appealed to the American government to invoke the Monroe doctrine at that time. But under such circumstances, of course, it didn't function. However, when it became a matter of forcing us to accept American military occupation, financial control, Wall Street loans, monopolies and naval bases, and to make us collaborate in matters that do not concern us, then the Monroe doctrine did and does work."

FEB 22 1941

Mr. Hudicourt then told of the American occupation of his home by the Americans.

"President Roosevelt ordered the withdrawal of the American marines in 1932,' 'he continued, '-and then visited the republic of Haiti. At that time, he enjoyed great prestige and real popularity in my country. But the apparent consistent collaboration of the Roosevelt administration with the unscrupulous dictatorship of Vincent, has certainly not contributed to the maintenance of that prestige and popularity.

Mr. Hudicourt then told of President Vincent's actions charging among other things nepotism. Mr. Vincent's brother is a senator, who has charge of all the fruit

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Youth Congress Pledges Aid In Present National Crisis

NEW YORK—Full support of American youth to the Government in the war emergency was pledged last week by the American Youth Congress in a special statement released by Jack R. McMichael, Jr., national chairman, and Frances M. Williams, executive secretary. All youth were urged to "take their posts" in the armed forces, civilian defense units, or in the battle to increase production in industry and agriculture for the national defense.

Declaring that this war "is a continuation of the policy of aggression and enslavement waged by Japan against the Chinese people, and by Hitler against the peoples of the world," the AYC stated that "our nation will not find the young men and young women of America wanting. We stand in firm resolve behind the policies of our Government in all measures required by the defense of our country."

DEC 20 1941

TEXT OF STATEMENT

The statement in full is as follows:

"The issue of war or peace has been finally resolved for America. Japan co-partner of Hitler, has declared war upon our nation, launched a treacherous military attack against us. This is a continuation of the policy of aggression and enslavement waged against the peace-loving and courageous Chinese people since 1931, and by Hitler against the peoples of the world.

Patriotic America will rise as one man to the defense of our security and freedom from the powers of tyranny that are attempting to enslave the entire world. The long series of aggressions by the Axis powers against peace-loving peoples of Europe, Asia and Africa have now reached this nation and hemisphere in their full and desperate fury. The entire world is engulfed in one gigantic conflict in which there are but two sides: that of freedom and justice; the other enslavement, tyranny and aggression.

This is not a racial war. To the defense of the United States young people of all races and national backgrounds are rallying. Among our allies are the heroic Chinese people. This is a war not against the Japanese people, but against the military regime which enslaves them, and which seeks with Hitler to enslave the entire world.

Freedom-loving Americans will rally unhesitatingly to the defense of liberty for which our nation stands. But today liberty must be dearly bought. Its price is the united struggle of the peoples fighting side by side to end forever the threat of aggression by Hitler and his Tokyo henchmen.

Together with the great body of American labor, with every truly partiotic citizen, we pledge that our Government, our nation will not find the young men and the young women of America wanting. We stand in firm resolve behind the policies of our Government in all measures required by the defense of our country. Our labor, talent and skill will be made available without stint so that the battle for production shall be won and the materials of war produced for our own armed forces, for Great Britain, the Soviet Union, China and all nations fighting to end slavery. Our efforts will not be found wanting in the armed forces upon which our defense so clearly rests.

American labor—its patriotism proven—will be a deciding force for victory. The rights of labor to organize and bargain collectively need to be preserved at home to insure victory abroad. the full and immediate cooperation, of labor, industry, of Government—of all the people—in one common effort is the only safeguard of our future.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

CYO Roundup Proceeds To Establish Parolee Hotels

Proceeds from the 4th annual Catholic Youth Organization Roundup, scheduled to take place at the 108th Engineers' Armory, 35th street and Wentworth avenue, on Saturday evening, April 19, will be used for the expansion of the CYO. Hotels to accommodate colored parolees, it was announced this week by the Rev. Leon V. Czyl, director of the Hotels.

CAPT. JOHN T. SCOTT

Father Czly made the announcement following a meeting of prominent law enforcement officials held Sunday afternoon, February 9, in the Hotels at 2944 So. Michigan avenue. Approximately 150 leaders of business and industry in the Chicago area attended the meeting and pledged their support to the Roundup.

Bishop Sheil Speaks

His Excellency, the Most Rev. Bernard J. Sheil, D.D., auxiliary bishop of Chicago and founder and national director of the Catholic Youth Organization, was guest of honor and principal speaker on the program.

Other speakers included Wilbert Crowley, 1st assistant state's attorney; T. P. Sullivan, chief of the state highway police and supervisor of parole investigation, and Superior Court Judge Joseph Graber, chairman of the Roundup, who presided at the meeting.

In outlining plans of the CYO to rehabilitate colored parolees, Bishop Sheil described the pressing need for such work among those youths who are eligible for parole but lack a job or sponsor to fulfill parole requirements.

Linking the plight of colored parolees who are unable to meet those requirements to current economic problems, the Bishop spoke of the demand for a readjustment of social problems as the most effective means to curb crime.

FEB 2 3 1941

Explains 10-year Plan

He told of the CYO's recently announced "ten year plan" to reduce delinquent tendencies in Chicago by which the CYO hopes to enlist voluntary aid in dealing with boys and girls who evidence delinquent tendencies, and expressed the hope that, with the support and cooperation of those present, the home for colored parolees would be an integral part of that plan.

Mr. Sullivan outlined the present parole situation and described in detail parole requirements. A job with a minimum salary, a home, and a sponsor who is a reputable citizen, he said, were the essential needs before a parolee could be freed from an institution. Declaring that there were around 400 youths now in Pontiac Reformatory who would be free but for these requirements, he stated that more than one-third of them were colored.

BISHOP BERNARD SHEIL

Captain Scott Guest

Included among the guests were Captain John T. Scott, noted Negro police officer, who was recently promoted to the captaincy of the Stanton Avenue Station in Chicago, the first time the race has been so honored; Captain Eugene Barry of the Woodlawn station, the Rev. John P. Farrell, Catholic chaplain of Pontiac Reformatory, and Patrick Deegan, veteran parole officer.

Civil, religious and social welfare organizations are urged to support Bishop Sheil in the effort

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

ROUNDUP NETS $7,200 FOR PAROLEE HOME

Expect Amount To Reach $7,500

"And a good time was had...."

No better description could be found for the fraternalism which prevailed last Friday night when friends of the Catholic Youth Organization gathered at the CYO Hotel at 2944 So. Michigan avenue.

They attended a "get-to-gether" following the CYO Roundup held on April 19 at the 108th Engineers' Armory and congratulated each other on the success of the affair. A check for $7212.06 was presented Bishop Bernard J. Sheil by Patrick Deegan, and reports which would hike the total to $7500 were made.

The Roundup, proceeds of which will be used to expand CYO hotels for colored parolees had the active support of Captain John T. Scott of the Stanton avenue police station. Outstanding citizens of the city's civic, professional, religious and business organizations attended the affair and received Bishop Sheil's personal expressions of gratitude for their support and cooperation.

Among them were Captain Scott, Judge Graber, chairman of the Roundup activities; Father Czyl, founder with Bishop Sheil of the Catholic Youth Organization; Prince Glanton, parole officer; Detectives Gilhooley and Rody of Stanton avenue police; Sergeant Robert Harness, chief of homicides at the Stanton avenue station, and representatives of the Negro Press: Olive M. Diggs, Chicago Bee, and A. N. Fields, Pittsburgh Courier.

Recognizing the influence which the home has on the child, Bishop Sheil, in a trenchant address, cited the purpose of the organization in combatting the rise of juvenile delinquency and its remedy—"sympathetic understanding of the problems facing youth who have made a mistake." He said, "Rearing a child starts 20 years before it is born—in the mother."

Other speakers were Judge Graber, Deegan and Father Czyl. Personal acknowledgement of the work she had done in making the Roundup a success was accorded Policewoman Rachel Wright, who was in charge of South Side ticket sales, by Bishop Shiel.

41-1941
Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

OF 185 DELEGATES, 15 WERE NEGROES

Martin L. Harvey Led Discussion On "Christian Reconstruction" to Meet Emerging Trends.

ESTES PARK, Colo., July 24—At the recent international meeting of the Christian Youth Council of North America meeting here, there were 185 delegates representing 38 States, 27 different denominations, Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A., meeting for the purpose of re-thinking the church program on a local State and national scale for youth between the ages of 16 and 25, and young adults between the ages of 25 and 30. The Christian Youth Council of North America is the executive body of the united Christian Youth Movements which is inter-denominational and inter-racial in character.

served as president from 1934 to 1938.

Of the 185 delegates, approximately 15 were Negro delegates representing a cross section of the Christian church. They were:

JUL 25 1941

Cornella L. Jamison, Indianapolis, national secretary of the Negro Mission organization, Disciples Church of Christ; Donald L. Hollowell, Jackson, Tenn., assistant director of Young People's Work, C.M.E. church; Howard Carter, of the C.M.E. church, Denver, Colo.; Foster Craggett, co-president of the National Christian Youth Fellowship, of Cleveland, Ohio; Jan Freeman, A.M.E. church, Stockton, Colo.; Mazola Fuller, of the C.M.E. church, Denver, Colo.; Leola Anderson, secretary of the National Youth Council of the C. M. E. church, Chicago; Martin L. Harvey, Jr., national director of Young People's work, A.M.E. Zion church, Hempstead, N.Y.; Elizabeth Harding, Ohio Council, Cleveland, Ohio; Olivia Stokes, vice-chairman of the New York State Christian Youth Council, New York City.

Dean William Faulkner, of Fisk university, was the leader of morning devotions, which were most inspiring and uplifting to all of the delegates.

JUL 26 1941

The new theme developed at the conference is, "Building Today for a Christian World." There was much discussion and grave concern over the subject of "Christian Reconstruction." The commission studying this was led by Martin Harvey, Jr.

Olivia Pearl Stokes was elected secretary of the Christian Youth Council of North America for 1941-1943. She was the only Negro officer of six national officers. However, not the first Negro officer, because Martin Harvey, Jr., had

Chicago Defender
Chicago. Illinois

Civil Rights Conference

APR 12 1941

April 19-20

APR 12 1941

41 - Civil Rights Conference

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Emphasizing the need for a strong answer to the present violent attacks on labor's rights, the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties announced a National Action Conference for Civil Rights to be held in Washington, D. C., April 19-20 Announcement of the conference was made by Rev. Owen A. Knox, federation chairman.

A public session to be held Sunday, April 20, at the National Press club auditorium will feature prominent national figures.

Conference meetings will be held both April 19 and 20 at the Hamilton hotel and will cover: Rights of Franchise, Labor's Rights, Racial Discrimination, and Freedom of Speech, Press and Assembly, the Reverend Knox announced.

41-1941
The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

CONGRESS OF SOURTHERN OHIO YOUTH

Ohio Youth Open Parley Today at Negro University

APR 19 1941

41- Congress of Southern Ohio Youth

Congress of Southern Ohio Youth to Act on Vital Problems for Peace, Jobs, Against Jim-Crow, Defense of Schools; to Hear E. Strong

41

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WILBERFORCE, O., April 18.—Tomorrow, with the opening sessions of the Congress of Southern Ohio Youth, 97-year-old Wilberforce University, first Negro college in America, begins another chapter in the history of its people's continuous struggle against oppression.

More than 100 delegates from Southern Ohio youth groups will come to this historic school, founded a score of years before the abolition of slavery. Representing thousands of young Ohioans, Negro and white, in factories, colleges, farms and churches, the visitors registered today at Shorter Hall for a two-day conference in which they will formulate a campaign to build and keep democracy in Ohio.

Delegates will head Edward Strong, outstanding Negro youth speaker, who will share the platform with Dr. D. Ormonde Walker, Wilberforce president, whose welcoming address will open the Congress.

APR 19 1941

Strong, executive secretary of Southern Negro Youth Congress and vice-chairman of American Youth Congress, revised a tour of mid-west states to address the youth groups. Also on the list of principal speakers at the initial session is Forrest Emerson, of United Mine Workers of America, Cincinnati, one of several union representatives to address the Congress.

OBJECTIVES OF PARLEY

Calls for the meeting outlined a six-point objective to preserve the rights of youth and labor in the present crisis. Panel discussions will be centered on efforts to take America out of the war; to protect the welfare of conscript youth; to end racial discrimination; to win jobs and training for all youth; to protect the rights and living standards of labor, and to defend civil liberties for all.

With a resurgent jim-crowism accompanying officially-inspired war hysteria, selection of Wilberforce as a rallying-point for the youth groups took on an added significance. This Negro college, it was pointed out, would be among the first of a dozen state-supported Ohio colleges to experience witch hunts as a result of proposed Ohio laws now being considered by the state legislature.

APR 19 194

These measures would bring about a black-out of academic freedom in this state, enforced by withdrawal of funds. Such a law was the recently defeated Phillips Bill, which proposed snatching state support from any university where persons might be engaged in activities labeled "un-American" under the bill's manifold provisions.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

THE CONFERENCE OF NAT'L ORGANIZATIONS

APR 12 1941

The European war and its contingent developments, our feverish preparation for defense, and our commitments to Britain have provided a psychological background for an upsurge of national grievances that have remained too long unheard. Never before in the history of this country has the Negro race displayed so strong and collective a determination to stamp out discrimination and segregation as is manifested today.

APR 12 1941

There have been in the past sporadic, isolated outcries against American race prejudice. But the concentration of the powers of significant Negro organizations on definite, clear cut and irrevocable demands is a new phenomenon in the annals of social action.

The Urban League, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Chicago Council of Negro Organizations have been firing their biggest guns in a relentless effort to batter down the ramparts of prejudice. Upon the urging of the Chicago Council of Negro Organizations, a Conference of National Organizations met last week in Washington and submitted to appropriate federal agencies a dossier of abuses that have been perpetrated against Negroes in the national defense program. Twenty-five national organizations were represented at this conference. It was a strong delegation composed of militant and intelligent men and women who knew what they wanted and who had the ability to state their demands with clarity and emphasis.

APR 12 1941

No such coordination of efforts, no such unanimity of views had ever before been made vocal. Even the Negro church, often too timid to indict the detractors and oppressors of the race, was adequately represented at the Washington conference. At long last the Negro has come to the realization that only through unification and consolidation of his forces can he hope to advance his political, social and economic status in the scheme of this American civilization.

Although it took a national emergency, a war hysteria to silence the confusion of motives that had prevailed too long in our midst, the remarkable unity of purpose that was so strikingly demonstrated at the Conference of National Organizations must be recorded as a high-water mark that may well presage a turning of the tides, a new day and truly a new deal for the American black man.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Form Negro May Day Committee

APR 11 1941

Group Stresses Fight Against Jim Crow, For More Jobs

APR 11 1941

Formation of a Harlem May Day Committee to swell the ranks of Negro marchers in the forthcoming parade was announced yesterday by Harry Weinstock, director of the United May Day Committee, 80 E 11th St.

"Never before," said Weinstock "has it been so imperative to bring the Negro people into the May Day demonstration."

The parade, he continued, would take up the fight against the administration's Jim Crow policy both in the armed forces and in the war industries. The Negro people, he stressed, are suffering doubly under the burden of the high cost of living.

"Jobs for Negroes," Weinstock concluded, "will be one of the most emphatic slogans of the May Day parade."

APR 12 1941

All Negro groups and organizations wishing to join in the May 1 demonstration were urged by the committee to send delegates to the Second May Day Conference at Webster Hall on the afternoon of April 19. Further information can be obtained at the Harlem May Day Committee, telephone ORchard 4-1565.

Richmond, Va. Times-Dispatch
August 13, 1941

Negro Youth to Meet

Five speakers will address an open-air meeting of the Democracy Defense League for Negro Youth to be held from 6 to 8 o'clock Thursday at Oakwood Playground. They will be Harry Rose, WMBG radio speaker; Lieutenant W. A. Saunders of the United States Navy; Mrs. Helena M. Payne, Cornelius Page, and the Rev. Emanuel Kent. The Odd Fellows' Band of Richmond and the Manual Training School Band of Hanover will provide the music. Roland D. Easley will be master of ceremonies.

41-1941

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

The Open Forum

MAR 15 1941

Is Negro Youth Really Showing Progress?

Editor, Journal and Guide: Although the opportunities offered Negro youth are rather limited, I sometimes wonder if they are really taking advantage of those opportunities which are offered them.

In nearly every city in the United States public schools are provided for the education of our youth, yet every year there seems to be a noticeable decrease in the number of students attending school. As a result the question arises as to who is responsible.

There is no doubt but that poverty is one of the principal causes of this decrease in school attendance, yet on the other hand we find, in many instances it is not poverty, but the desire of the students to get out of school and mingle with the outcasts of society, who so eagerly wait to lead them astray.

Among the many opportunities offered Negro youth for improvement may be mentioned the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. which are religious in nature and are invaluable in building up one's moral standards. Yet such organizations as these are considered of little importance by the average Negro youth.

Culturally, we apparently give no signs of being able to appreciate the finer things in life. Speakers of note who have travelled across the country find that, more and more, messages which are uplifting to our youth, are falling upon deaf ears. This is not altogether due, as some persons think, to a lack of education in the majority of Negro homes, but to a lack of patience among instructors who find no time to deviate from their regular courses of instruction long enough to give advisory aid to their students.

MAR 15 1941

Thus, when opportunities at home are limited, they find no haven at school. Of course, this does not apply to all instructors but until we as a whole, show definite signs of progress, the few are lost. It is my fervent hope that the day is not far distant when we shall be granted equal opportunities, when we shall take advantage of those we have, and be on the top as the most progressive youth group in the world.

—ROBERT SMITHEY
Editor, THE CLARION
Booker T. Washington High School
Norfolk, Va.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Negro Leaders Help Sponsor Liberty Meet

JAN 30 1941

Congress For American Liberty Set For State Capital Feb. 22

JAN 30 1941

Negro ministers, educators, lawyers, doctors, civic leaders and business men and women will participate in a "Congress for American Liberty" to be held in Harrisburg, Pa., on Saturday, February 22.

The "Congress" is being held under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Congress for American Liberties, and the meeting will be preceded by a welcoming banquet to delegates on Friday, February 21.

Negro members of the sponsoring committee are Revs. Robert W. Bagnall, E. Luther Cunningham and Arthur E. Rankin, ministers; Arthur Huff Fauset and Allan R. Freelon, educators; Theodore O. Spaulding, Raymond Pace Alexander and E. Washington Rhodes, lawyers; Miss Goldie Ervin, John F. Perdue and Wayne L. Hopkins, civic leaders.

GENERAL

Times-Picayune
New Orleans, La.

IDEOLOGIES ATTRACT YOUTH

FEB 28 1941

In the Eastern part of this country, ideologies such as Communism has attracted the attention of many of our youngsters, especially those in high schools and colleges where mixed classes was the order of the day. Many persons have looked with alarm at this situation, but experience has taught me that as men grow older and wiser, they learn that such baits as "SOCIAL EQUALITY" offered this group of ours, always comes from the member of the other groups who are the lowest down in their social scale.

Persons with common sense realize that any advantage in social attainments comes only when it raises the group to which it has been offered to a higher scale than that which they had once occupied.

FEB 28 1941

I believe the warning of the old sage which ran like this: "BEWARE OF GIFT-BEARING GREEKS" is applicable at this time as a warning to the foolish youth of our race who would merge their identity into the maelstrom being created in this country by forces dictated to and directed by foreign governments.

Black Americans, be proud of yourselves and your race, and let history tell the story of your sufferings, sacrifices, and achievements so that your posterity can well say, "Long live Black America!"

—*From The East Tennessee (Knoxville) News*

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Brooklyn Pastor Says 'Youth Must Solve Race Problem'

MAR 22 1941

By WILLIAM H. FERRIS

NEW YORK, Mar. 20 — The snow-lined streets of Brooklyn did not prevent the spacious auditorium of the Concord Baptist Church of Brooklyn from holding a capacity crowd, Sunday morning.

In his remarks, regarding the B.Y.P.U. Fellowship dinner, Dr. Adams, the pastor, said, "Unless we interest our young people in the problems of the age we will still be beating the air in 1960.

"The reason why we have discrimination in this country regarding race, is because people get converted and still retain their social prejudices. People accept Christ and yet hold on to racial discrimination as a social necessity. The only way to solve a race problem is to get the young white folks in the colleges and high schools and put the sting of the Lord Jesus into their hearts. There is something innate in man that makes him realize that over and beyond him is a Supreme Being."

The Senior choir sang "Sanctus" in an impressive manner and the Gospel Chorus sang a prayer. Dr Adams' theme was "The Preservation of Life." The text was Genesis 4:5-7, and from Christ's words "I am come that ye might have life and have it more abundantly."

In a sermon masterly in its analysis, it sounded the note of optimism and held the large congregation spellbound. Dr. Adams continued: "On the highways of life one needs the Bible which is a lamp to the feet and a light to the pathway. There can be no morality without the religious life. You need God to walk with you to have a spiritual life. Jesus sends you to sow the seeds of a better society in the midst of a corrupted world. Jesus created a new order for the whole world: Jesus came to save us from the defects and the defeats of life. What defeats life? Sin defeats life, ridicule defeats life; because you can laugh people to scorn who cannot take it. By faith in Jesus you can overcome the world and the difficulties of the world."

MAR 22 1941

My Day

By Eleanor Roosevelt

CAMPOBELLO ISLAND, N. B., Aug. 2, Friday — **World events** seem to be moving in more satisfactory fashion these days. One cannot help hoping that sometime before long we may realize that people who have thought that war was the only way to bring about satisfactory solutions to world difficulties may have reached the conclusion that there are possibilities of mutual co-operation.

In these closing days of the International Student Service Institute here the question of the way to make democracy meet not only our own needs but world needs has been discussed by Dr. Eagleton and the students. Much interest and real thinking on the problem, I hope, will result.

* * *

I have, of course, spent a very short time with this group of young people, and I have nothing whatsoever to do with the running of the institute. But one finds oneself receiving certain impressions. I have found first that after five weeks of hard work there is no real lessening of interest in the study of what democracy means and of how, as individuals, we can function to make democracy meet the needs of all the people.

Dr. Neilson has made a deep impression on all of us. Perhaps the students who have been under his direction at Smith College will understand what I mean when I say that these young men and women have sensed the benediction of his presence.

AUG 2 1941

In addition, I think Mr. Joseph Lash, who has really done the day-by-day management of detail and curriculum on which hangs much of the success of an undertaking such as this, has gained the respect and the affectionate co-operation of all the young people under his care in a way which is only possible when there is realization of a fine spirit. People grow through experiences, if they meet life honestly and courageously. This is how character is built, and young people recognize this ability to grow in those with whom they come in contact.

I think the students will leave here tomorrow with the feeling that they have gained something enduring from their association with Dr. Neilson and Mr. Lash which will remain an inspiration for better living in their own lives.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Negro Youth and The Present Crisis

APR 19 1941

By Dean James T. Taylor
North Carolina College For Negroes

Some may be ashamed of this chapter in the Negro's history, but personally I am proud to be a member of a race that refused to stick a dagger in the back of a neighbor.

NEGRO youth are like all other youth in that they love adventure, action, drama, change, and a chance for self-expression. Negro youth have been exposed to the same sort of history teaching and history text books as other youth and as a consequence have learned to admire our military heroes, and their exploits. So when the drums begin to beat and the flags begin to wave young Americans feel the same call to fight and die for country as other young Americans.

DEAN TAYLOR

Such has been the story in every cricis which this nation has faced. On Boston Common, or Lake Erie, at New Orleans with Andrew Jackson, at San Juan with Theodore Roosevelt, and with Pershing in Mexico and in Flanders, Negroes have "paid the last full measure of devotion" to the land and country which they love.

During the crisis of 1861-56, Negroes fought to free the slaves and to preserve the union, while other Negroes stood guard over the lands and the families of the South, while the flower of its manhood wasted itself in a vain struggle against the rising tide of democratic imperatives.

APR 19 1941

GRAVE INJUSTICE

Some have attributed the loyalty of the Negro to the South in this period to ignorance, others, to fear of reprisal; and such explanation does the Negro a grave injustice. In standing by the South, the Negro was prompted by the same motives which activated Robert E. Lee and many other white Southerners in the crisis. The South was his home, he loved its hills, its valleys, its rivers and its plains, and though a slave he was bound to the people of the South by the strongest sort of emotional ties. His loyalty and devotion arose from a deep and abiding feeling of "belongingness."

Seventy-five years of freedom and education, and the disillusionment that followed the last world war, have left their mark upon Negro thought and attitude. On almost every issue which faces the nation, segments of the Negro People may be found aligned with every school of thought. This is to be expected, since Negroes, like other racial groups, have extensive intellectual and political differences which preclude the possibility of any one type of attitude or reaction developing in all of them.

LOYALTY TO COUNTRY

Furthermore, the very heterogeneity of the Negro's interracial contacts and experiences make a general pattern of thought, attitude, or reaction impossible. As a consequence, there are Negro communists, socialists, Democrats, Republicans, Pacifists, jingoes and the like. In this respect Negroes are like other Americans. I believe, however, that they are unlike some Americans in one particular—very few Negroes put their loyalty to party alignment above layalty to country.

What then is the Negro's attitude in the present national crisis? What is he thinking?

First: There is a considerable segment of the Negro population that is anti-British. These Negroes feel that England has treated her colored peoples very badly, exploiting them and reducing them to economic serfdom under the pretense of civilizing them. This group is unwilling to help save the British Empire, but they would serve America in the event our country found it necessary to go to war.

APR 19 1941

ANOTHER POINT OF VIEW

A smaller group of Negroes feel that America has not dealt fairly and justly with them, and that the present crisis affords the very opportunity which the Negro needs; this group thinks the Negro should take advantage of this hour to make demands upon the country; that now is the time for the Negro to state his grievances and insist upon their correction as a reward for his help in the present emergency.

One runs into these attitudes and points of view in discussing the world crisis with Negro groups, but it is my opinion that these views are held by a relatively small part of the Negro people. As in the past, so in the present crisis, the great mass of the Negro people are loyal and devoted to America and to the democratic way of life.

Do not misunderstand me—there is much in American life that Negroes do not approve of. We feel that discriminations and injustices based on color and race are the very antithesis of the democratic ideal, and that such discriminations and injustices should be discontinued; but we do not believe that any group of citizens should use the present emergency for realizing purely selfish gains. We feel that the present crisis is a time to insist upon serving rather than a time to bargain for privileges.

EAGER AND WILLING TO SERVE

APR 19 1941

So here we are eager and willing to serve. The army and the navy and other branches of the service need men. Negro youth stand in line asking for a chance to play their part as American citizens. They desire no special favors; they insist that the same rigid standards for admission and for service be applied to them.

Negro youth stand at the gates of factories, at the shipyards, and other defense industries. They have come because their country is in danger. The institutions which they prize are threatened from without by power drunk dictators, and from within by subversive propaganda and acts of sabotage.

APR 19 1941

Negro youth stands at the gates and along the highways and calls to America: "I am strong," he shouts, "I am eager and willing to help." "I know no country but America. I have no loyalty save to the stars and stripes." "I have been a sailor, a soldier and a worker, and I have never shirked or been disloyal in time of crisis." "May I come in? May I help?"

SPIRIT OF NEGRO YOUTH

This I believe is the spirit of the great mass of Negro youth in the present crisis. America has nothing to fear from him. He wants to preserve freedom, and our democratic way of life. The danger to America does not come from the Negro but from those, who in this time of national crisis, when it is imperative that we have a united nation, would by policies of job denial and discrimination, keep alive ill-will and racial misunderstanding. They are the real enemies of democracy at home, and they give aid and comfort to the dictators abroad.

In the present crisis America needs the energies and the united effort of all its citizens; any individual or group of individuals who deny any American the right to share in the defense of our common land is undermining the foundations upon which our democracy rests. This is sabotage of the most sinister sort; it does not destroy ships, or industrial plants, which, after all, can be rebuilt, but such practices destroy men's hopes and belief in the democratic way of life; such men become fertile soil for subversive doctrine and the willing tool of the revolutionary propagandist.

BELONGS HERE

APR 19 1941

Negro youth feels that by birth and by social heritage he belongs here. He does not plan any mass migration elsewhere, nor does he contemplate race suicide. He wants simply to play his part as a man and an American in this hour of national crisis. To do other than this voluntarily would brand him as a traitor; to be denied the right for full participation will rob him of his self-respect, and deprive him of that feeling of "belongingness" out of which has some the Negro's loyalty and devotion to this land.

This is a crucial hour in the life of our nation. Let all Americans live it magnificently, so that other generations of Americans looking back across the centuries at us will say in the words of Winston Churchill, "this was our finest hour."

Savannah, Ga., News
April 26, 1941

NEGRO YOUTH IS HAVING MEETINGS

AT THE STATE COLLEGE

Bishop Barnwell and Others Speak Last Night

The Georgia Negro Youth Conferences, composed of the Hi-Y and Tri-Hi-Y groups, under the auspices of the state council of the Y. M. C. A., are meeting at the Georgia State College this week-end. About 250 delegates and supervisors from various sections of the state are in attendance at this conference. Dr. H. W. Rohrer, state secretary of the Y. M. C. A., Atlanta, is in charge of the sessions. The theme of the conference is: "My Part in a Christian Democracy."

The opening session of the conference was held last evening at 7 o'clock in Meldrim Hall. The Right Rev. Middleton S. Barnwell, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Savannah delivered the keynote address before a large group of delegates, students of the college, and faculty members. Bishop Barnwell commended the colored race as a whole on the strides they have made, and urged the young people to continue to progress. He also presented a brief outline of the part the Episcopal Church is playing and has played in the education of negro youth.

Basing his address on the conference theme of Christian Democracy, Bishop Barnwell stated that "one fault of the American democracy is the discriminations against the negro race—one of the inequalities that is being attempted to be wiped out in the South." He compared conditions existing in Europe and America today, and challenged the young people to take advantage of the many opportunities which lies before them now in this country. "The first thing that we should have in a Christian democracy," he said, "is that we should be reulers of ourselves and masters of our own fate. Democracy rests upon the worth of the human being. The youth movement of Germany is based upon Hitlerism and this is the cause of the present chaos. Every youth movement should be based on Christ. It will develop personality and make permanent in you that sense of dignity that makes human life worthwhile. The trouble with the world today is that we have become a neighborhood before we have become a brotherhood. Modern inventions have welded the nations into a neighborhood, and we cannot live as neighbors unless we regard each other as brothers. Germany has grown away from this sense of brotherhood and is persecuting the Jews. Here in America, we must have that religious base upon which human love, human tolerance, and human character can be rested. Religion has been at the bottom of our democratic way of life, and our democratic way of life will live no longer than our faith in God lives," he concluded.

Other persons appearing on the program were Mrs. Henry Hodge of Savannah, M. G. Haynes, principal of Cuyler High School, and B. F. Hubert, president of Georgia State College. Music was furnished by the Cuyler High School chorus and the Georgia State College chorus.

The program scheduled for today will consist of a tour of the college campus, a general assembly in Meldrim Hall at 9 o'clock for the worship service and announcements. At 9:45 o'clock the conference will divide into groups, and delegates will discuss the following questions: "What is the part of high school boys and girls in a Christian democracy?" "What can they do now?" "What can Hi-Y and Tri-Hi-Y clubs do?"

At 11 o'clock, a group picture of the delegates will be made, after which the groups will reassemble for conferences. The afternoon session will be devoted to recreation, sightseeing and fellowship. The evening session will be presided over by Charles Morrow of Gainesville. Fay S. Robinson will have charge of the worship service. A panel discussion of work covered by the various groups will be conducted by C. N. Cornell of Atlanta, after which a business session will be held to determine the place of the 1942 conference, and the election of officers for another year. Following this, the delegates will be entertained at a social in the college gymnasium.

The conference will come to a close on Sunday. Dr. Benjamin E. Mayes, president of Morehouse College, Atlanta, will deliver the closing keynote address in Meldrim Hall at 10:30 o'clock.

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla

International Youth Conference, Mexico City (41)

NOV 15 1941

Picture shows Vicente Lombardi Toledano, head of the Federation of Latin American Workers, discussing with Miss Esther V. Cooper, administrative secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, as other delegates to the International Youth Planning Conference (Mexico City, October 25-27) look on. Left to right are: Cesar Cascallar Carrasco of the Argentine Youth Congress; John W. Darr, U. S. Intercollegiate Christian Council; Miss Cooper, an interpreter; Mr. Toledano, Miss Marie Reed, American Youth Congress; Miss Della Davis, U. S. Y. W. C. A., Lynchburg, Va., and Jack Brierly of the Canadian Youth Congress

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

First Lady Confers With Randolph And White In New York

JUN 18 1941

Letter from Mrs. Roosevelt Expresses Belief That March Would Be Grave Mistake in Time of Present Crisis

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

NEW YORK—(ANP)—In a week-end crowded with developments indicative of the tremendous pressure being exerted by the highest administration officials to curb if not completely kill the March on Washington, A. Philip Randolph, directing the nationwide mobilization, announced his scheduled conference with both Secretary of War Stimson and Secretary of the Navy Knox in Washington at noon on Wednesday, and a later conference with the President himself definitely probable.

Evidencing the proportions and significance that the drive has taken on and the anxiety of the White House to prevent this "very grave mistake" from being made was the unannounced conference Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt held with Mr. Randolph and Walter White, NAACP secretary, in the office of Mayor F. H. LaGuardia here Friday morning. Earlier in the week the First Lady had written Mr. Randolph in an effort to persuade him to retreat.

In the face of these mounting objections, the sponsoring committee met hurriedly Saturday morning at the YMCA to discuss the latest developments, and issued the following statement.

JUN 18 1941

CONFIDENCE IN LEADERSHIP

"The committee met today and renewed its confidence in the leadership in this drive and registered its determination to redouble its efforts to make the March on Washington the greatest demonstration of Negro mass power for our economic liberation ever conceived. It represents a technique and method of action that is the hope and salvation of the Negro people."

Meanwhile, there was considerable frowning in New York over reports that Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell, speaking at the commencement exercises at Howard university Friday, had delivered a scathing attack upon both Mr. Randolph and the project.

Sec. Knox' telegram, received Wednesday, invited Mr. Randolph to confer with him. Sometime later Dean William H. Hastie, civilian aide to Stimson, dispatched a wire to the march headquarters here, at the suggestion of the war secretary, also to confer, in this case, however, with Mr. Hastie. Prior to this, Mr. Randolph had been reached by telephone in Buffalo, where he was speaking, asking him to immediately come to Washington. This was not feasible.

The telegram invitations were accepted but contingent upon permission being granted to allow other committee representatives to participate. Changes in arrangements were made to allow for a joint conference of the two secretaries and to have Mr. White in the meeting. These four men, at this writing, will constitute the conferees with the possibility that others will be added later.

CONFERENCE WITH FDR

From an unimpeachable source it was learned that, at the request of President Roosevelt, a larger conference will probably be held with the chief executive at an unspecified time and date but subsequent to the Wednesday session. Aubrey Williams, national director of the NYA, who was in New York Friday, was said to have relayed the President's message.

Mayor LaGuardia, although opposing the march on Washington, is reported to have stated that the matter of Negroes getting jobs "has passed the pious statment stage" and that "something very concrete has got to be done."

LETTER TO RANDOLPH

Mrs. Roosevelt's letter to Mr Randolph, dated June 10, is as follows:

"I have talked over your letter with the President and I feel very strongly that your group is making a very grave mistake at the present time to allow this march to take place. I am afraid it will set back the progress which is being made, in the army at least, towards better opportunities and less segregation. "I feel that if any incident occurs as a result of this, it may engender too much bitterness that it will create in congress even more solid opposition from certain groups than we have had in the past.

"I know that crusades are valuable and necessary sometimes, but undertaken when the temper is as tense as it is at present, it seems to me unfortunate, and to run the risk which a meeting such as this carries with it, is unwise. You know that I am deeply concerned about the rights of Negro people, but I think one must face situations as they are and not as one wishes them to be. I think this is a very serious decision for you to take."

FRIENDSHIP CITED

Commenting upon the letter Mr. Randolph said there is no question in the minds of Negroes that Mrs Roosevelt is "a real and genuine friend of the race, a fact attested to by both statements and actions from time to time."

Since the Friday conference with the First Lady discussed the viewpoint advanced in the letter, it was explained that both Mr. Randolph and Mr. White expressed appreciation for "the fine spirit" of Mrs. Roosevelt and Mayor LaGuardia but registered their difference of opinion on the matter. The representatives held that the march is "certain to have a favorable and beneficial effect upon the American people, both black and white, since it will show that Negroes themselves have awakened to a definite sense of their mass power."

The New England Baptist convention, meeting last week in Philadelphia, endorsed the march and after hearing Mr. Randolph's speech Friday night closed by singing "Onward Christian Soldiers" as an expression of the spirit of the convention.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Ill Advised March

President Roosevelt's fine appeal to end discrimination against Negroes and other minority groups in defense employment was timed, we are told in some quarters, to head off a "March on Washington" planned by various Negro organizations for July 1, as a mass protest against the general denial of defense opportunity which they are generally encountering.

PM reports that despite the president's proclamation, plans for the march are still proceeding under the general direction of A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Walter White, secretary of the National Association of Colored People, and others, who hope to rally as many as 100,000 Negroes for the Washington march.

Mrs. Roosevelt has warned the leaders that she considers the move ill-advised. It is certain, of course, to constitute a bandwagon which the Communists and other enemies of the defense program will attempt to board—and steer as well. In fact, *PM's* correspondent reports that the march has been publicly endorsed by James W. Ford, the best-known Negro Communist leader and Browder's running mate on the party's national ticket, and that the various fellow-traveling outfits are backing it.

It seems to that level-headed Negro leaders will be disposed to wait and see what action follows the president's appeal to end discrimination, for his sincerity and determination to get the Negro a fair deal ought to be beyond dispute, and he is possessed of the power to enforce justice if needs be. The scheduled "March on Washington" seems bound to stir up the animals of dissension on all sides and its most probable result will be to stir more, rather than less, difficult the job of getting Negroes admitted to industries and defense services from which they are now barred.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Randolph Won't Halt Job March

BULLETIN

NEW YORK. — "President Rosevelt's statement on job barriers will have no effect on the March to Washington. The march is on," A. Philip Randolph told the AFRO late Monday.

NEW YORK.—Despite advices from persons high in national affairs—among them Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox and Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, plans for the July 1 march-on-Washington of thousands of colored Americans protesting discrimination in the national defense program continue uninterrupted. A. Philip Randolph, director of the march, declared this week.

In a letter to Mr. Randolph last week, the First Lady said:

"I have talked over your letter with the President and I feel very strongly that your group is making a very grave mistake at the present time to allow this march to take place. I am afraid it will set back the progress which is being made, in the army at least, towards better opportunities and less segregation.

"I feel that if any incident occurs as a result of this, it may engender so much bitterness that it will create in Congress even more solid opposition from certain groups

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

PRESIDENT CONFERS WITH WALTER WHITE AND A. P. RANDOLPH

Believe Job March Topic Of Discussion

Leaders Silent After White House Meeting

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—An important conference at the White House attended by A. Philip Randolph and Walter White as a result of the proposed job march on Washington scheduled for July 1, heard these two men lay the claims of the Negro people before the President, Mayor LaGuardia and a group of ranking officials of the government.

JUN 22 1941

Present beside those mentioned were Secretary of War Stimson, Secretary of Navy Knox, Production Directors Knudson and Hillman.

Mayor La Guardia acted as spokesman for the government chiefs and said that there "has been some discrimination in the employment of Negroes" on defense jobs and he said that the official group that discussed the situation Wednesday would be able to find a solution.

The mayor did not indicate what steps would be taken to instrument the President's order of last Sunday that more defense jobs be opened to the members of the colored race.

The mayor further praised the condition which saw the colored representatives sit at the table with government officials to discuss the problems which face the group in America.

Complete silence surrounds the meeting as far as any definite plans are concerned and calls at the White House fail to illuminate the situation beyond the briefest mention of the meeting.

JUN 22 1941

It is reported that some sort of plan is being drafted whereby industry, especially the defense program, will begin to absorb more Negroes according to the President's mandate.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

FIRST LADY SAYS GROUP WILL MAKE SERIOUS MISTAKE

NEW YORK, N.Y., June 19—In order to keep race citizens fully informed on all developments connected with the movement to mobilize 100,000 Negroes for the march on Washington, A. Philip Randolph, national director, has released a letter received from Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, opposing the march as "dangerous" to the progress already made toward better opportunities and less segregation.

JUN 21 1941

JUN 21 1941

In making public the letter, Mr. Randolph said, "I am submitting the letter received from Mrs. Roosevelt on June 10 which expresses an important point of view from not only an influential person in American affairs but a strong and definite friend of the Negro. There is no question that can rise in the minds of the Negroes, about the fact that she is a real and genuine friend of the race."

The letter was followed by a conference with Mrs. Roosevelt and Mayor LaGuardia on Friday morning in City Hall with Walter White and Mr. Randolph, where the Mayor and the First Lady expressed the same views in opposition to the march. The race leaders took decided exception to the stand taken and insisted that the march would produce beneficial results.

The letter of Mrs. Roosevelt follows:

"My dear Mr. Randolph:

I have talked over your letter with the President and I feel very strongly that your group is making a very grave mistake at the present time to allow this march to take place. I am afraid it will set back the progress which is being made, in the Army at least, towards better opportunities and less segregation.

I feel that if any incident occurs as a result of this, it may engender so much bitterness that it will create in Congress even more solid opposition from certain groups than we have had in the past.

I know that crusades are valuable and necessary sometimes, but at present the temper is as tense as it is at present, it seems to me unfortunate, and to run the risk which a meeting such as this carries with it, is unwise. You know that I am deeply concerned about the rights of Negro people, but I think one must face situations as they are and not as one wishes them to be. I think this is a very serious decision for you to take.

Very sincerely yours,
Eleanor Roosevelt"

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

ON TO WASHINGTON MARCH

In this column last week we urged the colored people to join the movement headed by A. Philip Randolph in a march on the nation's capitol. Since that time, however, the President of the United States has issued a statement which we regard as far-reaching, as it affects the abolition of racial discrimination in defense industries. Also since the last issue of this paper, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, the wife of the President of the United States, has reiterated her interest in the Negro as a minority group in this country and in which she said that she had personally taken up our cause with President Roosevelt and that she believed that the proposed march on the capitol would be a mistake on the part of the leaders which might result in the loss of some of the ground we have already gained with respect to our civil and political rights. In the meanwhile other influential white people whom we regard as friends to our group have advised against the march on Washington.

JUN 20 1941

With these intervening incidents we are inclined to doubt the wisdom of the march because we all know that a statement such as was issued by the President to the officials of the Office of Production Management is bound to get results, sure and certain. Therefore, we think that wisdom would suggest that the proposed march on the capitol as a protest against the injustices which are heaped upon the Negroes in this country should be postponed pending negotiations for more considerations and also to give time for us to see just how much effect the President's words will have with the OPM and the industries.

We all can see and understand that the outspoken words of the President on this question of racial discrimination (which is the strongest language ever spoken by a chief executive of this nation against such discrimination) is the direct result of the proposed march on the capitol to air our grievances. This in itself is a signal victory for the leaders of the movement but no one at this time can tell what the picture would be following such a march on the nation's capitol. As the case now stands we can claim a victory, but no one can tell what we could claim after July the first should the march be staged. The victory so far achieved leaves a foundation upon which to build our future, but who knows but that such a foundation will be shattered after the first of July should the march be staged. The leaders in the movement have reason for crowing as the case is now, but who knows but that this state of affairs may be turned into weeping after the first of July should the March on Washington be carried out.

JUN 20 1941

These are some of the things on which we should think and consider. Then, too, there is the question of how many of the masses will be in such a march. The success of such a parade will be judged by the numbers. All of these are questions which we think should be given thoughtful consideration before this march on Washington is made.

We would have it understood that we are definitely among those who favored such a demonstration before the President made his statement, together with other factors which have figured in the situation. But today we feel that an armistice might be best for all concerned.

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Eleanor Roosevelt Confers With March On Washington Leaders

JUN 21 1941

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt again demonstrated her willingness to aid the cause of the Negro when she conferred Friday with A. Philip Randolph and Walter White who are planning a "March on Washington," July 1, to protest silently against the unfair treatment accorded Negroes under the present defense set-up.

It is understood that Mrs. Roosevelt discussed the consequences "good and bad" of the match, and also suggested how "the most effectiveness might be gotten out of the demonstration." Randolph is said to have received two telegrams to date from Secretary of the Navy Knox, but the contents have not been disclosed.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

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JUN 22 1941

Present beside those mentioned were Secretary of War Stimson, Secretary of Navy Knox, Production Directors Knudson and Hillman.

Mayor La Guardia acted as spokesman for the government chiefs and said that there "has been some discrimination in the employment of Negroes" on defense jobs and he said that the official group that discussed the situation Wednesday would be able to find a solution.

The mayor did not indicate what steps would be taken to instrument the President's order of last Sunday that more defense jobs be opened to the members of the colored race.

The mayor further praised the condition which saw the colored representatives sit at the table with government officials to discuss the problems which face the group in America.

Complete silence surrounds the meeting as far as any definite plans are concerned and calls at the White House fail to illuminate the situation beyond the briefest mention of the meeting.

It is reported that some sort of plan is being drafted whereby industry, especially the defense program, will begin to absorb more Negroes according to the President's mandate.

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Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

FIRST LADY SAYS GROUP WILL MAKE SERIOUS MISTAKE

NEW YORK, N.Y., June 19—In order to keep race citizens fully informed on all developments connected with the movement to mobilize 100,000 Negroes for the march on Washington, A. Philip Randolph, national director, has released a letter received from Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, opposing the march "at present" as dangers" to the progress already made toward better opportunities and less segregation.

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In making public the letter, Mr. Randolph said, "I am submitting the letter received from Mrs. Roosevelt on June 10 which expresses an important point of view from not only an influential person in American affairs but a strong and definite friend of the Negro. There is no question that can rise in the minds of the Negroes about the fact that she is a real and genuine friend of the race."

The letter was followed by a conference with Mrs. Roosevelt and Mayor LaGuardia on Friday morning in City Hall with Walter White and Mr. Randolph, where the Mayor and the First Lady expressed the same views in opposition to the march. The race leaders took decided exception to the stand taken and insisted that the march would produce beneficial results.

The letter of Mrs. Roosevelt follows:

"My dear Mr. Randolph:

I have talked over your letter with the President and I feel very strongly that your group is making a very grave mistake at the present time to allow this march to take place. I am afraid it will set back the progress which is being made, in the Army at least, towards better opportunities and less segregation.

I feel that if any incident occurs as a result of this, it may engender so much bitterness that it will create in Congress even more solid opposition from certain groups than we have had in the past.

I know that crusades are valuable and necessary sometimes, but when the temper is as tense as it is at present, it seems to me unfortunate, and to run the risk which a meeting such as this carries with it, is unwise. You know that I am deeply concerned about the rights of Negro people, but I think one must face situations as they are and not as one wishes them to be. I think this is a very serious decision for you to take.

Very sincerely yours,
Eleanor Roosevelt"

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

JUN 20 1941

ON TO WASHINGTON MARCH

In this column last week we urged the colored people to join the movement headed by A. Philip Randolph in a march on the nation's capitol. Since that time, however, the President of the United States has issued a statement which we regard as far-reaching, as it affects the abolition of racial discrimination in defense industries. Also since the last issue of this paper, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, the wife of the President of the United States, has reiterated her interest in the Negro as a minority group in this country and in which she said that she had personally taken up our cause with President Roosevelt and that she believed that the proposed march on the capitol would be a mistake on the part of the leaders which might result in the loss of some of the ground we have already gained with respect to our civil and political rights. In the meanwhile other influential white people whom we regard as friends to our group have advised against the march on Washington.

With these intervening incidents we are inclined to doubt the wisdom of the march because we all know that a statement such as was issued by the President to the officials of the Office of Production Management is bound to get results, sure and certain. Therefore, we think that wisdom would suggest that the proposed march on the capitol as a protest against the injustices which are heaped upon the Negroes in this country should be postponed pending negotiations for more considerations and also to give time for us to see just how much effect the President's words will have with the OPM and the industries.

We all can see and understand that the outspoken words of the President on this question of racial discrimination (which is the strongest language ever spoken by a chief executive of this nation against such discrimination) is the direct result of the proposed march on the capitol to air our grievances. This in itself is a signal victory for the leaders of the movement but no one at this time can tell what the picture would be following such a march on the nation's capitol. As the case now stands we can claim a victory, but no one can tell what we could claim after July the first should the march be staged. The victory so far achieved leaves a foundation upon which to build our future, but who knows but that such a foundation will be shattered after the first of July should the march be staged. The leaders in the movement have reason for crowing as the case is now, but who knows but that this state of affairs may be turned into weeping after the first of July should the March on Washington be carried out.

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These are some of the things on which we should think and consider. Then, too, there is the question of how many of the masses will be in such a march. The success of such a parade will be judged by the numbers. All of these are questions which we think should be given thoughtful consideration before this march on Washington is made.

We would have it understood that we are definitely among those who favored such a demonstration before the President made his statement, together with other factors which have figured in the situation. But today we feel that an armistice might be best for all concerned.

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

JUN 21 1941

Eleanor Roosevelt Confers With March On Washington Leaders

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt again demonstrated her willingness to aid the cause of the Negro when she conferred Friday with A. Philip Randolph and Walter White who are planning a "March on Washington," July 1, to protest silently against the unfair treatment accorded Negroes under the present defense set-up.

It is understood that Mrs. Roosevelt discussed the consequences "good and bad" of the match, and also suggested how "the most effectiveness might be gotten out of the demonstration." Randolph is said to have received two telegrams to date from Secretary of the Navy Knox, but the contents have not been disclosed.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Roosevelt Won't Address Marchers to Washington

By a Staff Correspondent

THE WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON.—President Roosevelt has refused to speak to the thousands of Negroes who will march on the nation's capital, next Tuesday, in the interest of breaking down the discriminatory barriers in national defense industries, a conference here last Thursday afternoon revealed.

The Chief Executive told A. Philip Randolph, Frank R. Crosswaith, Miss Layle Lane and Walter White, members of the National Committee for the Negro March-on-Washington campaign, "that he could not speak to them because he does not speak to groups who come to Washington."

Mr. Randolph at this point informed the President that the march-on-Washington movement was not fathered, developed and fostered by any irresponsible, wild-eyed crackpots, but that it is sponsored and carried on by a national committee composed of sane, sober and responsible Negro citizens, and that none of these people had any sympathy with, or interest in Communism, the Communist Party, its tactics, program or policies, but on the contrary were definitely opposed to them."

A Grave Mistake

The President, still however, thought "the march was a grave mistake and would not accomplish the object sought, but on the contrary may create serious trouble."

The President asked the delegation, "What would happen if Irish and Jewish people were to march on Washington?" He then stated, "It would create resentment among the American people because such a march would be considered as an effort to coerce the Government and make it do certain things."

Mr. Randolph in answer to the President's query said, "There is no comparison between a march on Washington by Jews and Irish people, and the Negroes. The public knows that the Negroes have justification for bringing their grievances to the President and to present them to the American people."

Calls It "Unintelligent"

President Roosevelt was firm in expressing his opposition to the march, stating that it was "bad and unintelligent."

He took the stand that problems of discriminations from which Negroes suffer have to be dealt with by methods that are well thought out and planned, but that a march on Washington would give the impression to the American people that Negroes are seeking to exercise force to compel the Government to do certain things and this attitude will do more harm than good.

However, the President told the committee he wanted to see discrimination against Negroes in National Defense eliminated, and that he would put the force and weight of his office behind efforts to secure jobs for qualified Negroes in the Defense Program.

Walter White injected in the conference that discrimination against Negroes in defense industries is increasing and that Negroes who were seeking to work out a program with the Government to remove this discrimination had been given the run-around, and hence, the Negroes had to conclude that this march on Washington was the only effective thing that could be done at this time.

Could Be Petty Officers

When it was pointed out to the President that Negroes could be nothing but messmen in the Navy, and that some of them had been summarily discharged merely because they had protested against discrimination in the Navy, the President replied that Negroes could become petty officers and that he did not consider they performed only menial work.

He said that the stokers in the ships performed more menial jobs than messmen and that all of the men who man ships had a common task to perform.

To Establish Board

The Chief Executive suggested to the conference that he was giving some thought to the matter of establishing a board which would receive and investigate complaints by Negroes or anyone else about discrimination faced in defense industry.

He said that he thought one of the difficulties Negroes faced was that they had nowhere to go to present their grievances and complaints when they were victims of discrimination by defense industries.

Mr. White suggested that he did not think much of such a board unless it had some power from him, to which the President replied that if the study of the problem showed that such a board was practicable, he would place the full weight of his office behind it. He also stated that he was undecided whether he would appoint an all-white board or one combined of whites and Negroes.

He expressed the feeling that the setting-up of such a board should be given some thought and should be a part of the program in trying to find a remedy for the problem of the Negro in National Defense.

Creates Sub-Committee

Following his half-hour conference with the delegation, the President designated a sub-committee to meet with Mr. Randolph and Mr. White and included Mayor LaGuardia, as chairman; Secretary of War Stimson; Secretary of the Navy Knox; directors of the Office of Production Management, Knudsen and Hillman; director of the NYA, Aubrey Williams and co-ordinator of the Social Security Board, Anna Rosenberg to draw up findings and a plan that may serve as a remedy for the question, to be presented to him for his consideration and action. They all went on record as opposing the march.

The sub-committee met immediately after the President's conference and adjourned to meet again either in Washington or New York City Monday this week.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

The March Committee Should Now Watch

While all may not have originally favored the proposed March-On-Washington protest organized by able, leveled-headed, and responsible Negro leaders in protest of alarming and widespread discriminations in defense industries and related set-ups, we were inclined to find virtue in it.

It was our opinion that such a monstrous protest would awaken America thunderously, but not injuriously, to the need of binding all sections of the population more closely together by eliminating various types of discriminations creepingly and steadily dividing us. Discriminations are the roots of disunity in a democracy. Nothing we felt could be a better contribution to our national unity than a dramatization to America of the Negro's willingness to cooperate in the present crisis. A mass protest against such discriminations in a democracy, we believe, would let the enemies know that their doctrines of slavery hidden in clevely labeled ideologies were even more obnoxious to these minority groups and would be even more strenously opposed.

Never were we in sympathy with any construction of the "March" as a "make-you-do" movement. We saw it as a lobby of the weak without the more refined advantages of the powerful. We saw it as an inheritance founded in events of history. It as beyond our way of thinking that the "March" would lend comfort to our enemies that America was divided. Open protest is better than silent treachery brought on by a suppression of discontent.

We favored what the March symbolized. We were in sympathy with its objectives. We saw a parallel between its aims and those of our government. In supporting one, it was necessary to support the other, we believed.

The objective of the March-On-Washington committee has been accomplished to a degree by the executive order of the President "to encourage full participation in the national defense program by all citizens of the United States regardless of race, creed, color or national origin, in the firm belief that the democratic way of life within the Nation can be defended successfully only with the help and support of all groups within its borders."

Our position in the beginning was that discrimination in government, labor, and industry should be removed so that our government could have "the help and support of all groups." That was our interpretation of the objective of the "March." The President agrees to this first proposition.

The President goes on to say "there is evidence that available and needed workers have been barred from employment in industries engaged in defense production solely because of race, color, creed, or national origin to the detriment of workers' morale and of national unity." This is a recognition of the incontrovertible facts that weighed into

our decision that discrimination was "a detriment of workers' morale and of national unity" and therefore had to be marched out of our entire system of defense. The President is again in agreement with us.

To implement his memorandum of a few days ago the President has told government officials to 'take special measures appropriate to assure" non-discrimination because of "race, creed, color, or national origin" in vocational and training programs for defense production. Hereafter in all defense contracts negotiated by OPM shall be a "provision obligating the contractor not to discriminate against any worker because of race, creed, color and national origin."

A five-man committee on Fair Employment is established in the Office of Production Management which "shall receive and investigate complaints of discrimination in violation of the provision of this order." Far-reaching are the enforcement spread reaching through all agencies of the government and to the President. It empowers the Fair Employment committee to re commend all measures it deems necessary and proper to effectuate the provisions.

A March on on Washington, if carried out, could hardly have achieved much more, if any, than has been provided for by the order of the President. With this obtained, we commend the wisdom of the committee in postponing indefinitely the "March."

Before issuing his order, the President, Mrs. Roosevelt and many substantial friends of the Negro had hoped that a way could be found to get the things advocated by the "March committee" without their marching. Their hope has apparently found reality in the President's order.

However, we see a need in having competent persons placed on the committee, and for adequate Negro representation on it. We see a further need for the "March committee" converting itself in to a 'watch committee' to see to it that the President's order is not perverted or the Fair Employment committee freezing their work at zero benefits.

Unlimited cooperation and unity is needed. It's our turn to show that our protest was more a symbol of disunity. Let us prepare ourselves for the new opportunities that the no-discrimination order promises. Let's back up our President for he has backed us up.

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

MARCH ON WASHINGTON POSTPONED

THE proposed March on Washington, headed by A. Philip Randolph, head of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, was postponed following an executive order signed by President Roosevelt last week requiring defense industries to employ workers without regard to race, creed, color or nationality. Randolph made a public statement at Houston, Texas, that the president's order was a "bread and butter victory" and the greatest executive order affecting Negroes since the Emancipation Proclamation".

Now that the president has made his statement an executive order and created a five-man board to study and make recommendations to stop discrimination, it is but fair that Randolph and his followers play fair with the president and give him a chance to carry out his mandate. Last week we remarked in our editorial column that it would not be for the best interest of Negroes to postpone the parade. That advice was given in the light of the developments of the situation at that particular stage, and we would hold to the same opinion if there were not some new developments in the picture. Consequently, we think that Mr. Randolph made a wise move in postponing the March on Washington following the president's executive order. Last week, when we discussed this matter, the president had not issued his executive order.

Without a doubt the proposed March on Washington caused a bit of disturbance in political circles. And the fact that the president issued his executive order shows that the administration did not want such a protest to take place at a time like this when our country is trying to build up unity and a national defense program to save democracy. On June 15, the president made a statement but it was of very little significance as far as the leaders of the March were concerned. But now things are in pretty good shape. The March has been postponed — not cancelled — merely waiting for the executive order of the president to become a reality.

We believe that the president of the United States will carry out his mandate to the people. But at the same time we are cognizant of the fact that political pressure in Washington, particularly coming from Southern leaders of the Congress, serves as a great handicap in carrying out a program. We have not ever doubted the president of these United States, but we have not had a lot of confidence in some of the Southern leaders of Congress because of their records and attitudes on problems effecting the American Negro. We believe that recent developments in the last two or three weeks of the Negro's problems, discrimination in industries and in the war department have been given more consideration than ever before. And we also believe that a more definite approach to eradicating some of the political and social evils practiced and enforced against Negroes has been made.

The president of the United States said that his office would back the five-man board to the limit. With this executive order the Negroes rest their case for the time being with the Chief Executive of the nation.

THE MARCH IS OFF

The March on Washington in the interest of more jobs for Negroes on the defense programs off, at least for a while, and thus the hordes of Negroes from every section of the country who were expected to make the pilgrimage to the White House will not go there but instead will wait, anxiously wait, the result of a proclamation from President Roosevelt to be issued this week ordering a discontinuance of discrimination against Negroes and other minority groups by industries filling defense orders. The course taken by the leaders of the March on Washington to postpone the movement was the only sensible step to be taken in view of the promise of the President to see to it that the nefarious practice of refusing to give work to men because of their race, color or creed will cease. An executive order to this effect will undoubtedly go a long way toward softening up some of the race-hating industrial executives and biased labor leaders in influencing them to give work to all loyal qualified American citizens. It is hoped that events of the immediate future will make it unnecessary to go through with the postponed march. However, it behooves the leaders of the movement to remain vgilant and be ready to take up the fight again if desired results are not forthcoming. The March on Washington leaders have already scored a signal victory and shows what can be gained by intelligent, determined group action. It is necessary for all groups at times to resort to pressure movements and it is well that the Negro has learned this lesson.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Sweet Reasonableness—No March on Washington

Quintus Rufus was a wise man. He said: "Nothing can be lasting when reason does not rule."

The March on Washington Committee decided last week not to take its new Coxey's army, 100,000 strong, to Washington after the President had put teeth in his policy of non-discrimination in defense employment.

In his original memorandum earlier in the month, Mr. Roosevelt directed the Office of Production Management (OPM) to take necessary steps to end capital and labor's refusal to hire and unionize workers of minority groups.

In his executive order last week the President went much further.

He reaffirmed "the policy of the United States that there shall be no discrimination in the employment of workers in defense industries or government because of RACE, CREED, COLOR OR NATIONAL ORIGIN."

In the 441-word statement he used the words capitalized above six times. It was repetition for emphasis.

Then he took three steps to put his policy into effect:

* * * *

1. He directed all government departments and agencies concerned with national defense training to take special measures to see that there is no race, creed or color line.

2. He ordered all defense contracts to carry a clause obligating the contractor not to discriminate against workers because of race, creed, color, or national origin.

3. He set up a five-man committee on Fair Employment Practice to receive and investigate complaints of violations of the order, to redress grievances and to recommend enforcement measures to Federal agencies.

* * * *

The President's order is designed to correct the chief abuse that motivated the proposed march on Washington.

To be sure there are other pebbles in the march committee's shoes. There are questions of jim crow in the army, navy and civil service.

But defense is the main issue before the nation at present and we think the committee acted with sweet reasonableness in postponing its march on the capital to see how the Roosevelt order works out.

* * * *

It seems to us as important to know when to delay a mass protest as when to stage one. As Rufus said, "Nothing can be lasting when reason does not rule."

* * * *

The effectiveness of the orderly mass demonstration and the picket line has been thoroughly demonstrated as a means of creating favorable public opinion.

We are not at all in agreement with Bishop M. H. Davis, of the A.M.E. Church, and C. C. Spaulding, of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, when they argue that we should not use these ancient vehicles of public expression. For too long a time already we have left the energetic and progressive leadership in public matters to the radicals and the Reds.

The first amendment of the Constitution guarantees "the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

The founding fathers not only expected citizens to know what they wanted, but to go after it by way of the democratic method of petition.

* * * *

A. Philip Randolph, Walter White and the other leaders of the committee have acted with dignity and restraint. They deserve public confidence. President Roosevelt's order is a statesmanlike document which indicates his desire for national unity in the war crisis.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Didn't We Kill The Bear?

The activity of the old leadership of the Negro in Washington for the "March on Washington" made it clear that the time has come that such leadership is far outmoded. There were pastors, fraternal leaders, civic and social leaders who failed to raise a hand to aid in getting fair employment in defense projects and government.

These pastors who failed to join in this effort for the second emancipation of the Negro would make you believe that they can lead you to heaven, but don't have grit enough to lead a procession to the White House, via the "March" route, to ask the chief executive for an equal distribution of jobs.

One pastor of a fashionable church, in reply to a request from the committee that a person appear at his church, to urge his parishioners to join the drive for jobs, wrote the committee, "While we are sympathetic to and keenly aware of the objectives of the march, we feel that at such a time as this, we should not make any gesture which might be interpreted as disloyalty to our country."

This pastor evidently does not believe that fitting verse found in the Bible which says "Ask and it shall be given. Knock and the door will be opened. Seek and ye shall find." If asking for a free distribution of jobs is interperted as disloyalty then how loyal are the people who flaunt the constitution and do not recognize one-tenth of the population as citizens?

This type of pastor will gladly tell you what mass faith will do toward making the world safe for Christ. If mass faith can claim the consideration of the Almighty why in the name of all that is good cannot mass pressure, properly supervised, touch the heart of President Roosevelt without him feeling that it is subversiveness?

There are fraternal leaders who would issue proclamations urging the members of their order out to strut and prance through the streets of the city for no reason except to show the rich and gaudy uniforms that they are wearing. Yet they will sit supinely by, in their swivel chairs, and permit the administration to heap discriminations upon their members and do nothing about it. There are civic leaders who have gained the confidence of their fellows to the extent that they have been selected to represent them in civic matters, and yet when so vital an issue as getting jobs, by marching, is brought to their attention and they are asked to speak, they tell you that, "I don't think we can get it like that."

The Negro is the only oppressed people whose leaders are friends of the oppressors. We are sure that these leaders feel like hanging their heads in shame after the President's executive order, last week. This order came as the direct result of mass pressure. Had the proponents of the march had the same outlook on life that they have this gesture of democracy would not have been forthcoming. The pastors, the fraternal, civic and social leaders including big-wigs of Greek letter societies and other

organizations of college men and women would not refuse to use mass pressure on their constituents to bring some of the dollars, made on one of the sought after jobs, to their coffers, due to the fact it would make them more secure, and yet they failed them more secure, and yet they fail to add their influence and time to aid these persons.

They will gladly get up now and say "Didn't we Kill The Bear?" If we continue to follow such a leadership, both the leaders and the followers are going to wake up and find that the bear of economic slavery has devoured us. That such leadership has robbed our posterity of self-respect, faith, confidence, loyality and everything else that tends to make one a real citizen. It looks like mass funerals are our only hope from such a leaderhip. God knows best. He will eventually remove them and we can elect and select such leadership as will be fearless and sincere.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

May Take Place Of "March On Washington"

March of Million Dimes To Get Underway

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Four national religious and business groups meeting in various parts of the country unanimously and simultaneously endorsed a movement sponsored by the National Negro Council in which they pledged their support to a movement to march on a fight against discrimination of the Negro in national defense to the President, Congress, and the OPM until "justice is won for the 13,000,000 patriotic and loyal colored citizens of the United States."

Instead of the proposed "Parade of Negroes on Washington" which has been postponed, the Council, supported by the combined national groups, has asked that race ministers all over the country devote their sermon on July 6, to a patriotic theme, and to sponsor campaigns and raise funds to finance a $100,000 Negro lobby to work throughout the year in an orderly manner to interpret the needs as well as the constitutional rights of the race, to the Nation's Chief Executive, Congress as well as all other federal departments and agencies. Sunday, July 6, is designated as "National Negro Freedom and Reconsecration Day!"

Edgar G. Brown, director of the National Negro Council, in a statement amplified the Negro's willingness to do his own share in the fight to preserve democracy and his belief in the democratic way of life.

SUPPORT CAMPAIGN

Lending their support to the proposed "lobby" are the Bishops Council of the AME Church, the National Negro Sunday School Congress and B.T.U. of the National Baptist Convention, and the National Negro Insurance Association.

On the "Proclamation and a March of a Million Dimes" commitee are:

Bishop W. A. Fountain, chairman, acting Senior Bishop of African Methodist Episcopal Church, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Dr. C. T. Murray, president, National Negro Council and trustee, National Baptist Convention, Washington, D. C.; Leonard Lewis, general counsel, Afro-American Life Insurance Company, Jacksonville, Fla.; L. C. Blount, chairman executive committee, National Negro Insurance Association, director, Great Lakes Life Insurance Company, Detroit, Mich.; Dr. W. H. Jernagin, president National Negro Sunday School Congress, Washington, D. C.; Dr. J. E. Walker, president National Negro Business League, Memphis, Tenn.; Dr. D. V. Jemison, president National Baptist Convention, Selma, Alabama; Edgar G. Brown, president United Government Employees, director National Negro Council, Washington, D. C.

In its resolution supporting the National Negro lobby and the "March of a Million Dimes on Washington," the National Negro Insurance Company in its annual session at Savannah, Ga., last month, said that it was "fully conscious of the gravity and the imperative demand of the masses of Negro people of America and we join wholeheartedly with the business, church and Negro leaders in urging immediate action by the President, to further speak out, and to the Congress to legislate that the 14,000,000 Negro citizens might share equally in aiding defense, and share in common benefits to the American democracy.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Grumbling Follows March Halt

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Opinion is divided over the calling off the proposed "Jobless March" on Washington with many who had planned to participate feeling that the leaders of the demonstration pulled a fast one when they listened to the emissaries of the President and agreed to "postpone the march."

Grumbling against the decision, many who have sold buttons are beginning to resent what they term a "sell-out" and want to know what is actually going on and what is going to become of the hundreds who regardless of the postponement of the march, are determined to come to Washington?

From all parts of the country there are rumors of dissention and disagreement filtering in.

HOLD PRACTICE MARCH

In Brooklyn last Sunday it is reported that a "practice" march was held in a section thickly populated by Negroes and although many did not know what they were doing, they participated in the parade.

In Florida, a 77 year old woman sold a member of the OPM staff a "jobless March button" and swore that she was going to take part in the parade. She had money enough to carry her only as far as Savannah—which is about six or seven hundred miles short of her goal, but she was determined to get the rest of the distance and vowed she would make it if she had to walk.

In Washington, a retired government employee, interested through stories he had read in ANP releases, became actively interested and sold a number of buttons. He, too, feels that he has been let down, although he has no cause to woe since he is an annuitant of the government, but he felt the cause was a righteous one and wanted to see it carried to a successful conclusion.

OTHERS ARE GLAD

Some of the persons connected with the march in expressing their opinion say they are glad the President came to some sort of agreement before the march actually took place for they were greatly afraid that there would not have been a sufficiently large enough number of Negroes to impress the President.

There is some fear on the part of city officials that the disgruntled persons will come into Washington regardless of the postponement of the event and with a different set of leaders, cause friction between the two races.

It is Mr. Randolph's belief that by holding this march in abeyance, a great deal can be accomplished through the fear that such a demonstration will create an unfavorable impression in the nation's capital.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

NEGROES MUST PAY FOR RIGHTS, SAYS RANDOLPH

Cites Need of Mass Pressure in Order To Get Democracy

"We, as a race, have got to pay for our own liberty if we ever expect to get it," A. Phillip Randolph, executive director of the Negro March on Washington Committee, said in an address at a mass meeting last Friday evening at Lincoln Congregational Temple.

"We are not concerned about war or peace," he said, "but we are here to bring about the abolition of discrimination in the defense agencies and government departments and thereby endeavor to bring about peace in the world."

Mr. Randolph, who headed up the drive to bring more than 50,000 Negroes to Washington next Tuesday for a parade protesting lack of participation of Negroes in defense industries, outlined the aims for the demonstration.

He told of a recent conference in New York with Mrs. Roosevelt and Mayor LaGuardia. The First Lady expressed her wish that the march be called off because of the danger of touching off animosities latent among those who have sought through the years to throttle the Negro's fight for civic rights.

Hands Tied

"I replied that we knew both Mrs. Roosevelt and Mayor LaGuardia to be our friends," Randolph said, "but that we also knew their hands were tied and that they could do little or nothing to aid us materially. Therefore we ourselves would have to carry our issues into the mainstream of public opinion. Conferences will not realize the things that we want."

Mr. Randolph said he felt the publicity given the intended march had already precipitated some desirable results. He cited the need of a Presidential order, not a mere statement, demanding abolition of this discriminatiotn against Negro citizens.

Pittsburgh Courie
Pittsburgh, Pa.

"POSTPONED"

A. Philip Randolph electrified his "March on Washington" colleagues on June 25 by announcing that the widely publicized march had been "postponed" because of the President's order of that date banning discrimination in national defense industries.

Mr. Randolph held, according to an NAACP release "that the purpose of this march had been achieved;" implying that the President yielded to this threat.

We would be the last to deny that the President's order does not represent a distinct gain for Negroes, but we consider unwarranted the inference that he issued the order merely to head off the proposed march on Washington, or that it is as all-embracing as Mr. Randolph assumes.

Undoubtedly the President yielded to pressure, but it was the accumulated pressure of many months and from many sources, white and black—pressure begun by **The Pittsburgh Courier,** carried forward by the powerful Negro press and aroused colored citizens, and finally taken up by the white daily press and leading organizations.

The President's order concerns itself first with vocational and training programs and tells all departments and agencies that they "shall take special measures appropriate to assure such programs are administered without discrimination."

This is a great advance, especially for Negro youth, and particularly in the South where our youngsters have been shut out of such training.

The President's order concerns itself secondly with defense contracts (the main source of current rejoicing), declaring that "All contracting agencies of the Government of the United States shall include in all defense contracts **hereafter** negotiated by them a provision obligating the contractor not to discriminate against any worker."

This is also a great advance, but not as great as it appears, as we have indicated by emphasizing the word "hereafter"; because it does **not** affect the defense contracts **already negotiated.**

In other words, there are billions of dollars in contracts whose holders will not be forced to abide by the President's order because it is not retroactive.

Consequently, this part of the President's order, which is admittedly the **most important part,** will only apply to new defense contracts if, as and when they are made.

This provision could have been made retroactive if there had been the desire to do so, in which event Negroes could have started to work Monday morning in hundreds of plants from which they are now barred and will be barred for some time.

The cancellation of air mail contracts early in the New Deal indicated that the Administration does not regard contracts as sacred, unalterable and unbreakable, and this should be doubly true in time of national emergency when high morale and complete unity are essential.

The President's order concerns itself finally with the establishment in the OPM of a five-member committee on fair employment practice "to receive and investigate complaints of discrimination in violation of the provisions of this order," "to take appropriate steps to redress grievances which it finds to be valid" and "to recommend to the several departments and agencies of the government and to the President all measures which may be deemed necessary or proper to effectuate the provisions of this order."

Note that "the provisions of this order" refer to contracts "hereafter negotiated" and not to those already in force.

If it be true, as it has been inferred, that the President issued this order because of fear of the march on Washington, we can see no compelling reason why the march was postponed, since discrimination in defense industries still exists and will continue until new contracts are operative.

Aside from this necessary analysis for the record, there must be a feeling of elation and relief in the breast of every American Negro and of all friends of democracy over this great forward step toward true national unity.

We begin to feel at last that the day when we shall gain full rights, priviliges and opportunities of American citizenship is now not far distant.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Pilgrimage To Washington

THE movement, headed by Phillip Randolph, influential labor leader, to mobilize one hundred thousand colored Americans for a march on Washington July 1st gathers momentum. This proposed demonstration, which is unusual in Negro American history, has been accelerated by discrimination against Negroes in defense construction employment.

There is nothing un-American in the proposed march on Washington. The pilgrimage is in the nature of a protest. It is far less aggressive and takes on much less the appearance of a subversive act than the 70-odd strikes which the nation has endured during the past two or three months. The appeal to Washington is being made for the right to live. Such an appeal is in order under our constitution.

The April issue of the Employment Security Review reported:

> There has been no substantial relaxation of race, religion or nationality specifications by those employers who usually make such requirements. Employers generally continue to show reluctance in hiring Negroes for skilled and semi-skilled occupations. Negroes have been trained in defense centers, but even these are generally unable to secure employment in the skilled occupations. Shortages in metal trades occupations are aggravated by nationality and racial prejudices.

It is this situation, which stalks American Negroes at almost every turn they make in quest of employment, that gave birth to this momentous national movement, headed by one of the nation's most conservative and sensible Negro labor leaders. Associated with Mr. Randolph in the movement are a number of liberals including Dr. William Lloyd Imes, Lester B. Granger, Frank R. Crosswaith, Layle Lane, Richard Parrish, Dr. Raiford Logan, Henry K. Craft, J. Finley Wilson and the Rev. A. C. Powell, Jr. None of these men could be designated as "reds" or as being favorable toward fascism, Nazism or communism. In fact the call for mobilization and the pilgrimage specifically states:

> Fascism, Nazism, communism and all forms of dictatorships are alike condemned by proponents of the march. They appeal for loyalty, patriotism and national unity. Their belief is that the discrimination policy in the present national defense programs can be broken down by lawful, orderly mass pressure of the race.

How the demonstration will be viewed in the heat of the present perilous crisis remains to be seen. Certainly it follows in the precedent of American freedom, and merely illustrates the desperate conditions surrounding some Americans, while the government prepares to defend the American way of life.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Negroes To Appeal To Chief Executive

At a regular meeting of the civic league a motion was carried to send a representative to Washington, D. C., in the national march on the nation's capital June 1 in the interest of an appeal to the chief executive on behalf of the negro's right to a fair share of the present defense employment. Several national organizations among negroes will be represented such as the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, the N. A. A. C. P. as well as other religious bodies and congresses.

The Montgomery Civic League elected one of its outstanding citizens to represent her in this very important feat in the selection of the Rev. Ralph W. Riley, secretary of the national benefit board and minister of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church of this city. Dr. Riley is well versed in local and national happenings throughout the nation and is well prepared to represent Montgomery in any capacity in which he is called to serve.

The president of the league and secretary, Dr. R. T. Adair and Robert L. Matthews, together with other outstanding citizens who make up the league is asking that all clubs, churches and other organizations help send our representative to Washington to be a part of this history making effort for the race and the many needs she has.

Persons wishing to make a donation will please do so at the office of Dr. R. T. Adair, 121 1-2 Monroe Street not later than June 22. R. L. Matthews, secretary.

Birmingham, Ala. News
June 23, 1941

Ill Advised March

President Roosevelt's fine appeal to end discrimination against Negroes and other minority groups in defense employment was timed, we are told in some quarters, to head off a "March on Washington" planned by various Negro organizations for July 1, as a mass protest against the general denial of defense opportunity which they are generally encountering.

PM reports that despite the president's proclamation, plans for the march are still proceeding under the general direction of A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Walter White, secretary of the National Association of Colored People, and others, who hope to rally as many as 100,000 Negroes for the Washington march.

Mrs. Roosevelt has warned the leaders that she considers the move ill-advised. It is certain, of course, to constitute a bandwagon which the Communists and other enemies of the defense program will attempt to board —and steer as well. In fact, *PM's* correspondent reports that the march has been publicly endorsed by James W. Ford, the best-known Negro Communist leader and Browder's running mate on the party's national ticket, and that the various fellow-traveling outfits are backing it.

It seems to us that level-headed Negro leaders will be disposed to wait and see what action follows the president's appeal to end discrimination, for his sincerity and determination to get the Negro a fair deal ought to be beyond dispute, and he is possessed of the power to enforce justice if needs be. The scheduled "March on Washington" seems bound to stir up the animals of dissension on all sides and its most probable result would be to make more, rather than less, difficult the job of getting Negroes admitted to industries and defense services from which they are now barred.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

March on Washington Drive Draws Nationwide Response

By J. ROBERT SMITH

The Negro March-on-Washington campaign gained momentum this week as more than one hundred ministers urged the members of their churches, last Sunday, to join the fight to secure jobs for Negroes in the National Defense Industries and for their inclusion in the Army, Navy, Marine and Air Corps of the Nation.

The audiences were told that more than 100,000 Negroes from all over the United States, led by A. Philip Randolph, will converge on Washington, Tuesday, July 1, march to the Lincoln Monument and there send forth a plea beseeching the President of the United States to make use of his executive powers to put an end to the discrimination being exercised against Negroes.

"This movement is the result of the fact that Negroes are failing to receive their proper share of jobs in national defense, although billions of dollars of the taxpayers' money are being appropriated. We hope that this march will serve to shake up white American and official Washington to an appreciation of the rights of Negro America," the letter to the preachers sent by the committee read in part.

President Invited

Continuing, the letter said: "Upon that occasion, Mr. Roosevelt, the President of the United States; Mrs. Roosevelt, Messers Knudsen and Hillman of the Office of Production Management, the Secretaries of War, the Navy and the Air Corps, Messrs. Philip Murray of the CIO and William Green of the A. F. of L., the presidents of the National Manufacturers' Association and the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Tarold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior; Mrs. Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor, together with a few Negro citizens, are invited to speak.

The committee received hundreds of letters from all over the Nation from Negro citizens in all walks of life voicing their complete accord with the program and volunteering to do their best to promote the drive, Mr. Randolph told the Star News, Monday.

Real Democracy

Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, wrote: "We must under no circumstances allow the July 1st demonstration to be anything but an overwhelming success.

"If we demonstrate to the United States Government and the people of America that we mean business, it will help towards the attainment of a real democracy in the United States while we are fighting for it abroad."

Bishop J. K. Humphrey, the General Conference of the United Sabbath Day Adventists, New York City, "I beg to say that I fully agree with the steps being taken, not only to register our protest against this discrimination against our people, but to demand recognition wherever our rights are being infringed upon."

Promises Delegation

William Y. Bell, executive secretary of the Atlanta Urban League, wrote Mr. Randolph promising that there will definitely be an Atlanta delegation and declared that his organization has contacted a number of Negro colleagues making an appeal for their support.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Aroused Negro Masses Get Set For March on Capital July 1

JUN 7 1941

By A. PHILIP RANDOLPH

NEW YORK—In a democracy every citizen has a right to express his opinion about the policies of the government. He has a right, lawfully and orderly, to seek to change these policies when he deems them inadequate and unjust.

This is the purpose of the plan for 100,000 Negroes to march on Washington.

Negroes are rightfully dissatisfied with the Administration's policy or lack of policy on the Negro and defense. We are out to change it.

From an examination of various techniques, strategies, and methods of action that may be employed by minority groups to get their rights, it has become apparent, evident, and obvious to me that the Negroes' most effective weapon today is their mass power.

Must Mobilize

Mass power is the chief form of power Negroes possess if they mobilize it. It is a matter of common knowledge, however, that Negro mass power has never been really tested, measured and utilized to even its approximate maximum pressure possibilities.

The Negro massees have always been discounted, underrated and undervalued. The stress and emphasis and importance have always been put upon the moneyed, educated and talented Negro.

While we need to continue to develop and encourage Negroes of talent, money and education, the present crisis in the world—which is profoundly changing American national economy—demands that we go to the Negro masses where the power lies to save the race from degradation and ruin.

No other force under the sun can save the Negro today but his mass power, orderly and lawfully used to achieve his liberation from economic, social and political slavery.

When 100,000 Negroes march on Washington, it will wake up Negro as well as white America.

It will stun the government, shock business and astonish organized labor.

Blast Discrmination

In the name of the National March-On-Washington Committee, I call upon Negroes everywhere, from coast to coast, to form March-On-Washington Committees immediately and stage mass rallies on their city halls one week before the march on Washington, to urge the mayors and city councils to memorialize President Roosevelt to issue an executive order to abolish discriminations in all government departments and national defense.

I call upon the Negroes everywhere to gird for an epoch-making march and demonstration, July 1, for jobs, justice and freedom in the Nation's Capital.

On to Washington!
Let the Negro masses march!
Let the Negro masses speak!

41-1941
Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

MARCH ON WASHINGTON

Protest March On Nation's Capitol In July Postponed

Action of President in Calling for A Move Against Bias Stays Marchers

The March on Washington was ordered h eld up in a messag e sent out Wednesday by A. Phliip Randolph, director, to members of the ''Negro March on Washington C o m m i t t e e throughout the country. "The proposed gigan tic mass p r o t e s t demonstration against job discrimination in defense industries as held in abeyance due to the issuance of an executive order by President Roosevelt requiring that a ll defense contracts shall contain clauses prohibiting such bias. The march was scheduled for next Tuesday, but is postponed indefinitely.

Mr. Randolph's letter stated in part:

Recognize Effort

"While the Negro March on Washington Committee wishes in this connection publicly to express its appreciation and gratitude to the President for his statemanlike action in realistically facing this grave question of discrimination in defense jobs arising out of race, color, creed and national origin, and for his promulgation of this executive order, it cannot too strongly emphasize and stress the fact that this act of the President does not meet the vital and serious issue of discrimination against persons on a basis of race, color, creed and national origin in various departments of the federal government itself. It is the firm and reasoned judgement of the Negro March on Washington Committee that the inexcusable practice of discrimination against persons because of race, color, creed and national origin, by the government itself serves as a cue to and pattern for, private employers to commit un-American and un-democratic offenses of discrimination also.

Ask No Let Up

"The President has declared in this executive order that it is the policy of the government not to countenance discrimination on account of race, color, creed or national origin in government service. Therefore the Negro March on Washington Committee wishes to express the hope that the President may find it possible, in the interest of National Defense and National Unity, at an early date, to issue a second executive order, complementing and supplementing this one, that will strike down for all time discrimination due to race, color, creed or national origin in all departments of the federal government, and which will give reality and force to our profession concerning democracy and to the great and all out struggle our country is making to crush and destroy all subversive forces seeking to wreck our democratic way of life.

To Stay In Tact

"The Committee also wishes to make known to Negro and white people of America that the Negro March on Washington Committee considers as a part of its unfinished task the business of continuing the fight to wipe out all forms of discrimination in all departments of the Federal government, including the Army, Navy, Marine and Air Corps.

"To this end I, in the name of the Committee, call upon the Negro March on Washington Committees in various sections of the country to remain in tact in order to watch and check how industries are observing the executive order the President has issued."

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

The March On Washington

SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL there have been incidents in which people with a grievance found solace in marching. They marched in bodies in Bible times and on many occasions they found relief for their daring protest. While we would regret to be in a march, especially a long march beneath a torrid sun, we find sympathy for those who from their repeated protests find it necessary to put up a paper and pen and shuffle on their traveling shoes and set out upon a march.

A committee of nationally prominent citizens has decided to resort to this tactic to protest the gross discrimination against Negroes in the defense industries. A. Philip Randolph of the Pullman Porters' Brotherhood Union is director of the March-on-Washington, while Walter White of the NAACP heads the sponsoring committee.

No doubt the prospects of this march-on-Washington on July 1st had a direct bearing on the recent pronouncement by President Roosevelt condemning discrimination in the defense program because of racial or religious reasons.

The plans for the march seem to be well worked out in every detail and steps by the promoters have been appropriately taken to prevent communistic agitators and other radicals from horning in on the occasion. The printed instructions for the participants state in part "We sternly counsel against vio'ence and ill-considered and intemperate action and the abuse of power". We are told anyone with a smell of liquor on his breath is to be ejected from the parade.

In the old Hoover days the ex-soldiers staged a bonus-march. We all remember well the outcome of that march. How they were gassed and the old shacks at Anacosta were fired. But the march went on and in due time the bonus marchers got what they went out for and ex-President Hoover will never outlive the move he made in his treatment of them.

Marches when properly conducted are beautiful. There is a strange patriotic sentiment about marchers and wherever they pitch their tents, there is never an absence of fervor and the live tension of protest.

Thre is nothing un-American about marching and there is no reason why free citizens should be molested in exercising this natural right.

There is an old song which runs like this:

"We are marching, we are marching
Until the victory is won,—
We are marching, we are marching,—
Marching, Marching must be done."

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Pursuit Of Democracy

TREK TO WASHINGTON PRESENTS MANY ANGLES THAT NEED STUDYING

BY MARJORIE MCKENZIE

DEVELOPMENTS of the past week have put a new complexion on the advantages of the proposed July 1st March-on-Washington. The President has issued a statement, not an executive order, in which he places the full "support" of his office behind the OPM's efforts to end discrimination in defense industries. This was followed by White House conferences on June 18th and 23rd, presumably to work out a plan of action. Besides Mr. Roosevelt, the round-table discussions included the chairman of the March-on-Washington committee, A. Philip Randolph, labor leader; Walter White, Executive Secretary NAACP; Secretary of War Stimson, Secretary of the Navy Knox, Mayor La Guardia and Aubrey Williams director of NYA. On June 13th, Mrs. Roosevelt had previously conferred in New York with Mr. Randolph, Mr. White and Mayor LaGuardia, reiterating statements she made in a letter to Mr. Randolph, which he has made public. Mrs. Roosevelt very frankly advises that she has discussed this problem with the President.

Miss McKenzie

EXAMINE ISSUE

Both Mrs. Roosevelt and Mayor LaGuardia, whose racial attitudes are above question, urged the committee to call off the march. Mr. Randolph emerged from the White House unshaken in his determination to go through with the original plan.

The wisdom of Mr. Randolph's decision should be tested in the light of one paramount consideration. Will the march on Washington be a powerful weapon of fulfillment of our desire to end discrimination on all fronts, or will it prove a dangerous instrument of frustration? We are not concerned with unimportant questions such as the propriety of mass action or the practical problem of how 50,000 to 100,000 additional Negroes in Washington would paralyze housing and restaurant facilities. We want to know if the idea is smart any longer? Is it well-timed? Is it strategic?

There is this to consider. Since the President has already set out to do one of the things the march is designed to accomplish, what profit is there in the undertaking? If there is doubt that Mr. Roosevelt will keep his word, at least he is entitled to a fair opportunity to prove that he means what he says.

A MENTAL picture of tens of thousands of protesting Negroes, swamping down on Washington, a city already bursting with activity, is a prospect that appalls the imagination. Anything could happen. A number of things would.

MASS ACTION NEEDED

Any of the people and agencies who are the objects of this concerted unloosening of pent-up rancor, have reason to fear the unpredictable ramifications of mob action. The threat of a march-on-Washington is a thing of power; it must be cajoled, temporized with, placated. It provides the "mass base" so many of our self-styled leaders have needed to give meaning to their projects.

But what is a march-on-Washington after it is over? Even if it is a success, we are completely disarmed, the cards are on the table, the opponent knows and has experienced the best, or the worst, that we have. We are, thereafter, for a long time, defenseless. But the battle has only begun. Defense production, the Army, the Navy, the Air Corps will carry on for quite a while yet and so must we.

Mr. Randolph and Mr. White understand the limitations of what can be accomplished immediately. Mrs. Roosevelt pointed out that "one must face situations as they are and not as one wishes them to be." There is the possibility, if the march draws even 25,000 people to Washington in testimony of Mr. Randolph's leadership, that coercive measures will be taken to maintain control. That would bring defeat, discredit, disappointment.

ONLY in one area of the public life is the ordinary man formally organized. This is in the labor movement. Let us profit by his experience. Tactical blunders were made in the strike at the North American plant and the President [illegible] in the Army. Public opinion and Congress are now "all heated up" and prepared to pass repressive legislation against labor. Again and again, labor has unwittingly used the picket and boycott without sufficient advance arbitration. The result is that employers have regarded the picket line with amusement and contempt.

LABOR LESSON

Labor is learning another lesson, namely, that the Communist Party-line diverged from the path of democracy and liberalism several years back. It is a boomerang in any organization. Labor cannot tolerate the Stalinists in its bosom any longer. Now they have made an effort to board Mr. Randolph's band-wagon. He has warned them he does not want their support. We urge him to go further, to find out who they are and dispense with their services.

We hope that Mr. Randolph will consider, as labor must, the questions of violence and repression which accompany mass movements. Washington's ineffective and overburdened police department, now under Congressional investigation and baffled by a series of unsolved murders, could not cope with a horde of people. This might result in the Army's being called in on this situation also.

FINALLY, we ask Mr. Randolph to weigh the advantages of a threatened march-on-Washington of 100,000 Negroes, against the actuality of a march of the 5,000 that might show up. As long as the President, the Cabinet and Congress think Mr. Randolph has a following of 100,000, subject to his call, Mr. Randolph is a powerful figure and the best bargaining agent the Negro people have in their present fight.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

FDR OPPOSES NEGRO MARCH

Expresses Disapproval At White House Conference With Committee Heads

The momentum of the March on Washington to protest discrimination against Negroes in national defense industry, is sweeping the country like a prairie fire. These are the words of A. Philip Randolph, militant national director of the march, which will take place on July 1st.

Despite tremendous pressure from government heads, the demonstration will go on. The opposition of American [illegible] this move from the office of the President on down, was indicated at a White House Conference on Wednesday. Present were Mr. Roosevelt, Secretary of War Stimson, Secretary of the Navy Knox, OPM Directors Knudsen and Hillman; Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia; Coordinator Anna Rosenberg of the Social Security Board; Executive Secretary Walter White of the NAACP; Chairman Frank R. Crosswaith of the Negro Labor Committee; Layle Layne, New York Age staff member and Vice-President of the American Federation of Teachers, and National Director Randolph.

Keynote of the conference were the expressed objections of the President and his aides to the March on Washington project. Mr. Roosevelt emphatically stated that such a movement is "bad and unintelligent," pointing out that it would give to the American people the impression that Negroes are seeking to exercise force to compel the Government to do certain things.

Describing the bitterness, disillusion and resentment which Negroes have experienced because of the opportunities denied them in both national defense and federal departments of the Government, Randolph reported to the Chief Executive that the Negro race is demanding action. He re-emphasized his former position that an executive order is imperative. Scouting any impression that radical or crackpot elements are contained in the project, Randolph called the roster of the imposing personnel of the committee which represents closed ranks on fronts of the Negroes' civic, educational, religious and fraternal life in America.

A request by Randolph that the President address the marchers was met with Mr. Roosevelt's contention that he never addressed groups which come to Washington. Walter White interjected the reminder that this was not true in the case of the American Youth Congress.

Major developments of the Conference included Mr. Roosevelt's pledge that he would put the force and weight of his office behind a drive to secure jobs for qualified Negroes in the defense program and the formation of a planning committee to draw up findings and make plans toward this end.

Mayor LaGuardia is acting as chairman of this committee.

41-1941

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla

No, Not the Pay Roll Boys

If race uplifters are not careful these days they will do Negroes more harm than good. Since the postponement of the "March on Washington" and the deferment of the senate investigating committee headed by Senator Harry S. Truman, the air has been full of condemnation of Walter White and A. Philip Randolph.

In a lengthy statement this week Edgar Brown announces that the executive secretary of the N. A. A. C. P. has "sold out" the Negroes, and Dr. Rayford Logan, heading a National Defense Committee, is also credited with joining in chorus with those who think selfish leadership has hampered the Negro in fighting discrimination.

The Black Dispatch believes there is too much effort on the part of certain Negroes to "kill off" the influence of others. There is no excuse for one Negro assuming another has taken the pay off on discovery that someone else seeks a different approach to the solution of race problems.

Take, for instance, the "March on Washington" parade. This writer did not at first approve it. We have discovered, however, that this postponed effort at mass pressure did more good than fifty conventions. The President's attention was focused upon army and civil discrimination against Negroes as nothing else could. But this writer never did doubt the integrity or sincerity of of those who fostered the march.

This all goes to prove that none of us has a patent on common sense. President Roosevelt has issued his executive order, and if those who are now howling loudest regarding the postponement of the parade believe in the integrity of the President, they will wait until Negroes have an opportunity to survey and study the functioning of the order before again suggesting a march on Washington.

We think there is considerable opportunity for the states to evade the clear and obvious intention of the President in the executive order isssued, and it appears to the Black Dispatch that all ears should be to the ground listening for improper noises, instead of the lambasting in progress at the present time.

Where is the honest, devout and consecrated race leader who is going to lose time locating personal honors for himself? Why should we say that the postponement of the Truman investigation does not have virtue? Surely it can be seen that if the investigation is held thirty days later there may be opportunity to present evidence of violations of the President's executive order. One could not offer such criticism now.

We think there is considerable merit in what Walter White says when he calls attention to the fact that those subpoenaed for the Truman hearing were not the proper persons. We had just as well get our thinking clothes on straight when it comes to making investigations. We believe we have a fine group of men in Washington, working in the various departments. What we shall say here is not in disparagement of a single one of them, but the stark, naked truth is this: if we want to strip race discrimination down to the bone here in America that jo bmust be done by Negroes of economic status independent of the United States government.

It is foolish for Edgar Brown or any of the rest of the employees of the government attempting to prove they could go as far digging into official rottenness as some one detached from a government pay check. Such argument does not make sense in Chinese. The elephants will be roosting in rose bushes on a cold day in August when a fellow holding a job walks up to his boss and berates the fellow who issues his meal ticket about the way he is treating the general public.

We have some fine friends in Washington, but when it comes to the task of setting the fur on the government's back, the pay-check boys know they cannot speak their sober unadulterated judgement without catching a train back home. None of the boys in Washington want to catch a train back home.

With this in mind, study carefully the list of those who were scheduled to appear before the Truman committee. Walter White is correct when he says that high officials of government should have been subpoenaed before that committee, along with contractors holding defense contracts, and who are notorious in their discrimination against Negro workers.

In addition to the above suggestion we believe an honest-to-God investigation would include prominent Negroes from the South who can tell what is happening in their community. Walter White does not have first-hand information regarding what we in Oklahoma see every day. Texas, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, should all have present before such an inquisitorial body men and women who not only know the facts, but have the intestinal fortitude to expose the facts. We know a half dozen fine white citizens along with Negroes who could strike telling blows before the Truman committee, and we are assured that none of the boys on the pay roll in Washington could afford to beckon towards the type of white and black folk we have in mind. Whether the march on Washington was right or wrong we are assured of one fact, none of the pay roll boys could have risked their jobs in that parade.

There is nothing we have said here which should invite the thought that we are attacking the integrity of members of the Black Cabinet. We are sure they have in their files valuable information which should be available in such an investigation. But the pay-roll boys should make that information available to citizens who have within their independent status the social and political dynamite that makes things happen.

MARCH ON WASHINGTON

The March on Washington

The march on Washington being organized by Mr. Phillip Randolph and supported by Negro leaders and citizens in many quarters will, we hope, succeed. It deserves to succeed not only because it would be a fine dramatization but also because it would be both principled and timely.

It is solid principle for Negroes to demand their rightful price in American democracy and we can think of no better time for principled action than the present.

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON

FOR SOME TIME A. Philip Randolph, head of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and outstanding labor leader, has advocated and worked up a proposed March on Washington of fifty thousand or more Negroes for the purpose of registering a protest against discrimination in the defense program and in the various branches of the war department. The March on Washington, according to schedule is supposed to take place on July 1. From all indications, Randolph and his leaders have just about mobilized their forces and are ready for the great march down Pennsylvania Avenue. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is closing its national conference at Houston, Texas a day earlier in order that the leaders of that organization might get to Washington to take part in the parade.

Since the proposed parade has gained momentum and seems to be a reality, President Franklin D Roosevelt cracked down on defense industries in a memorandum to the Office of Production Management asking that discrimination against Negroes cease at once. Since that time administration leaders such as Dr. William J. Thompkins, Recorder of Deeds; Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell of Illinois and other boys on the pay roll, have been sent out to stop the parade. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt advised that it would be unwise at this time to stage such a demonstration, and that it would only make bad matters worse with the administration in trying to eradicate some of the discriminatory evils in the defense program and the branches of the war department. Mrs. Roosevelt felt that such a demonstration would irk the Southern leaders of the Congress and there would be less opportunity on the part of those who felt disposed to help the Negro to get things done.

Randolph and Walter White of the NAACP have ordered that the parade be redoubled and state that no effort on their part will be made to halt the parade. Mr. Randolph charges that the president's statement is of very little significance because it was not an executive order nor a proclamation, and that it had no teeth in it, and that there are plenty of loopholes for those who wish to discriminate to jump through. Randolph termed the president's statement somewhat of an appeasement inasmuch as the president has not ever spoken out in defense of Negroes, and has ordered the parade to go on as scheduled.

Now that the picture is before the Negro people, the big question now being discussed among leaders of our group all over the nation, is what is the best course to take. Of course there is division on the matter. It is expected that the boys

on the pay roll will advise against anything that will show up the administration. And those stalwart leaders who have been on the battle front for the great masses of Negroes are not willing to give up because to give up now in the midst of the great fight which we have started on the grounds of a little appeasement would perhaps set the Negro back much further than before the defense program started. The soldiers marched on Washington and they got their bonus. Other groups have staged demonstrations and they got a hearing. The youth of America marched on Washington and got a hearing. So as far as we are concerned we say go ahead with the march. A stand must be taken one way or another, and the Negroes must be prepared to either lose or win. The fight which Negroes are conducting to gain their economic, social and political freedom is a dangerous one and there is no such thing as being in the safety zone. Of course we realize that common sense and good judgment should precede all action. And in this particular instance we feel that to postpone the march in the light of the fact that discrimination and the evils in the war department still exist would not be good judgment.

JUN 27 1941

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, LEADER

Several weeks ago we published a brief editorial in which we set up what we considered the qualifications of a leader. We cited them as "Honesty of Purpose," "Ability to Lead," and the "Personality to Cause People to Believe in You and Follow You." There appears to have come upon the horizon a man who measures up to the standard.

JUL 1 2 1941

A. Philip Randolph, the man who organized the "March-to-Washington" and called it off only after President Roosevelt issued an executive order prohibiting racial discrimination in our national defense program, looms large among Negro leaders since his dramatic stand in the fight to break down prejudice in employment in plants working on defense orders.

Mr. Randolph's activities in the interest of the masses go a long way back. He toiled along with the late Eugene V. Debs in an early movement to help the common man. Even then his sacrifices were great. Later on when he began organizing the Pullman Porters he spurned an opportunity to "feather his own nest" when he was offered the privilege of writing his own check if he desisted in his effort to unionize the porters. This refusal undeniably reveals a determination of purpose and strength of character without which no one who holds himself out as a leader is worth his salt.

Mr. Randolph has consistently denied himself personal honor, glory and financial advantage because to do so he would have had to compromise his principles. He had steadfastly refused to accept financial assistance from whites because he knew that to do so would hamper his efforts. Time and time again he has turned down lucrative jobs in the city, State and Federal governments because he has wanted to be free to fight the battle of his people. In this connection already he is being ranked along with the great Frederick Douglass. His name is rapidly becoming a household word.

The rise of A. Philip Randolph to a new and loftier position in the affairs of the race appears to presage the passing of the leadership that has controlled the Negro's destiny for the past 25 years.

Other organizations and other leaders have done some good work, but because their support has not come from the masses, and because they have rushed to get jobs for themselves at every opportunity, their leadership has been weak and ineffectual. It's an old saying, "He Who Pays the Fiddler Calls the Tune."

For many years the Negro has been groping for a leadership that could be trusted. It seems, now, that that leadership is being ushered in. We regard A. Philip Randolph as the man of the hour. His sacrifices in the past, which were made in times of stress and want, would seem to indicate he cannot be bought. On his record we heartily endorse his program and commend him to the Negroes of America who look for and hope for a better day.

Nation
New York, N. Y.

THE PROJECTED MARCH on Washington to secure fair play for Negroes in defense industries and in the army was halted largely by the intervention of Mrs. Roosevelt. The President himself had tried to dissuade the leader of the movement, A. Philip Randolph, by sending his anti-discrimination memorandum to the OPM on June 15, but Randolph and Walter White of the N. A. A. C. P. felt that the statement left much unsaid. Then Mrs. Roosevelt went to New York, and she and Mayor LaGuardia won over the Negro leaders in a private meeting. The fruit of that conference was the executive order to the OPM issued on June 26.

JUL 1 2 1941

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

CALVIN'S DIGEST

By L. BAYNARD WHITNEY

ORGANIZE, THEN MARCH

For 100,000 Negroes to march on Washington on July 1 (or at any other time) would indeed "stun the Government, shock business an astonish organized labor"; and the Negro himself would be the most surprised of all. It is characteristic of A. Philip Randolph, head of the Pullman Porter's Union and leader of the March on Washington Movement, to set a very high mark to shoot at.

JUN 27 1941

The object will be to demand jobs for Negroes in National Defense and the elimination of racial discrimination in the U. S. Army, Navy, Marines and Air Corps.

It is extremely doubtful that 100,000 Negroes anywhere in the United States are able, financially or otherwise to even get to Washington, and if Mr Randolph can mobilize 20,000 Negroes and get them all to the Capital, he will have accomplished a work of genius.

It can be done, but I don't think we'll do it.

It is unlikely that the Negro March on Washington will even approach the size or fame of the Cox's Army fiasco or the Hooverian Bonus March, for the simple reason that not enough of us feel tightly enough the pinch of the defense work shut-out, and our leaders are megaphoning our grievances with more emotion that the Negro masses feel

The NAACP's Walter White just recently told outcoming Fiskites that the Negro should declare a moratorium on patience. His remarks clearly implied that we are too blamed complacent about being shoved around. We continue to sow but "sit abject and mute . . . while others reap the golden increment of bursting fruit".

The time to do some harvesting on our own is long overdue.

In spite of the fact that 100,000 Negroes probably cannot make the trip to Washington and all arrive there on the same day (a fact which if accomplished would create a most acute economic and social problem in the Capital), an extremely resourceful organizer could manage it.

It would be only necessary for several of our fraternal, social, business and federal organizations to call a convention in Washington for a designated week (not just one day), and if orderly accommodations were made in advance the attendance might well reach 100-000. That would be the golden moment to make themselves heard and bring pressure to bear.

JUN 27 1941

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

CALL

COLORED AMERICANS TO WASHINGTON, D.C. FOR JOBS AND EQUAL PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL DEFENSE, JULY 1

GREETINGS:

We call upon Americans of color to fight for jobs in National Defense.

We call upon you to struggle for the integration in the nation's armed forces, such as the Air Corps, Navy, Army and Marines.

We call upon you to demonstrate for the abolition of Jim-Crowism in all Government departments and defense employment.

This is an hour of crisis. It is a crisis of democracy.

To colored Americans this crisis is the denial of jobs in Government defense projects. It is racial discrimination in Government departments. It is widespread Jim-Crowism in the armed forces of the Nation.

While billions of the taxpayers' money are being spent for war weapons, colored workers are being turned away from the gates of factories, mines and mills—being flatly told, "NOTHING DOING." Some employers refuse to give them jobs when they are without "union cards," and some unions refuse them union cards when they are "without jobs."

Colored Americans by the mobilization and coordination of their mass power, can cause PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT TO ISSUE AN EXECUTIVE ORDER ABOLISHING DISCRIMINATION IN ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, ARMY, NAVY, AIR CORPS AND NATIONAL DEFENSE JOBS.

The task is not easy. It will cost money. It will require sacrifice. It will require suffering. The Colored American's stake in national defense is big. It consists of jobs, thousands of jobs. It may represent millions, yes, hundreds of millions of dollars in wages. It consists of new industrial opportunities and hope. This is worth fighting for.

But to win our stakes, it will require an "all-out," bold and total effort and demonstration of collossal proportions.

To this end, we propose that ten thousand MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS IN NATIONAL DEFENSE AND EQUAL INTEGRATION IN THE FIGHTING FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES.

An "all-out" thundering march on Washington, ending in a monster and huge demonstration at Lincoln's Monument will shake up white America. It will shake up official Washington. It will give encouragement to our white friends to fight all the harder by our side, with us, for our righteous cause.

We believe in national unity which recognizes equal opportunity of black and white citizens to jobs in national defense and the armed forces, and in all other institutions and endeavors in America. We are loyal, patriotic Americans, all.

But, if American democracy will not defend its defenders; if American democracy will not protect its protectors; if American democracy will not give jobs to its toilers because of race or color; if American democracy will not insure equality of opportunity, freedom and justice to its citizens, black and white, it is a hollow mockery and belies the principles for which it is supposed to stand.

We summon colored Americans to form committees in various cities to recruit and register marchers and raise funds through the sale of buttons and other legitimate means for the expenses of marchers to Washington by buses, train, private automobiles, trucks and on foot.

We summon colored Americans to stage marches on their City Halls and Councils in their respective cities and urge them to memorialize the President to issue an executive order to abolish discrimination in the Government and national defense.

Crispus Attucks marked and died as a martyr for American independence. Nat Turner, Denmark Vesy Gabriel, Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass fought, bled and died for the emancipation of black slaves and the preservation of American democracy.

Abraham Lincoln, in times of the grave emergency of the Civil War, issued the Proclamation of Emancipation for the freedom of slaves and the presenvation of American democracy.

Today, we call upon President Roosevelt, a gerat humanitarian and idealist, to follow in the footsteps of his noble and illustrious predecessor and take the second decisive step in this world and national emergency and free colored Americans of the stigma, humiliation and insult of discrimination and Jim-Crowism in Government departments and national defense.

The Federal Government cannot with clear conscience call upon private industry and labor unions to abolish discrimination based upon race and color as long as it practices discrimination itself against colored Americans.

Remember, our valiant and heroic forbears won the right for us to enjoy the priceless gifts of freedom, justice and equality in America today. They won it through tears, toil, sweat and blood. It is a challenge to us to follow the glorious traditions of our forbears and struggle to bequeath to our children of today and tomorrow the right to participate in the economic, political and social institutions and life of America upon a basis of absolute equality, and thereby make American democracy what its founders and defenders intended it to be.

Committee to march on Washington for equal participation in National Defense, 2289 Seventh Avenue, New York City.

WALTER WHITE
REV. WILLIAM LLOYD IMES
LESTER B. GRANGER
FRANK R. CROSSWAITH
LAYLE LANE
RICHARD PARRISH
DR. RAYFORD LOGAN
HENRY R. CRAIT
A. PHILIP RANDOLPH
J. FINLEY WILSON
REV. A. C. POWELL, JR.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH
Prominent signer of the Call for a March of 10,000 on Washington to end discrimination in the country's armed forces and defense industries.

Negroes All Out To Change Government's Policies On Jobs And Justice In Defense

By A. PHILIP RANDOLPH

In a democracy every citizen has a right to express his opinion about the policies of the government. He has a right, lawfully and orderly to seek to change these policies when he deems them inadequate and unjust.

This is the purpose of the plan for 100,000 Negroes to march on Washington.

Negroes are rightfully dissatisfied with the Administration's policy or lack of policy on the Negro and defense. We are out to change it.

From an examination of various techniques, strategies, and methods of action that may be employed by minority groups to get their rights, it has become apparent, evident, and obvious to me that the Negroes' most effective weapon today is their mass power.

Mass power is the chief form of power Negroes possess if they mobilize it. It is a matter of common knowledge, however that Negro mass power has never been really tested measured and utilized to even its approximate maximum pressure possibilities. The Negro masses have always been discounted, underrated and undervalued. The stress and emphasis and importance have always been put upon the moneyed, educated and talented Negro.

While we need to continue to develop and encourage Negroes of talent, money and education, the present crisis in the world—which is profoundly changing American national economy—demands that we go to the Negro masses where the power lies to save the race from degradation and ruin.

No other force under the sun can save the Negro today but his mass power, orderly and lawfully used to achieve his liberation from economic, social and political slavery.

When 100,000 Negroes march on Washington, it will wake up Negroes as well as white America.

It will stun the government, shock business and astonish organized labor.

In the name of the National March-on-Washington Committee I call upon Negroes everywhere, from coast to coast, to form March-on-Washington Committees immediately and stage marches on their city halls one week before the march on Washington, to urge the mayors and city councils to memorialize President Roosevelt to issue an executive order to abolish discriminations in all government departments and national defense.

I call upon the Negroes everywhere to gird for an epoch-making march and demonstration, July 1, for jobs, justice and freedom in the Nation's Capitol.

On to Washington!

Let the Negro masses march!
Let the Negro masses speak!

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

THAT MARCH ON WASHINGTON

Nothing is going to be accomplished by the crackpot proposal of A. Philip Randolph and his associates to stage a march on Washington in protest against color discrimination in national defense.

Marches on Washington have always failed of their purpose because Congress has regarded them merely as nuisances organized by publicity hounds, job-hunters and addlepates, and consisting of the mob-minded and misguided. The attitude of the press has been the same.

Led by The Pittsburgh Courier, which has spent thousands of dollars during the past four years in enlightening public opinion about color discrimination in national defense, colored people have so flooded their Congressman, Senators and the President with protests that not a single official in Washington is unaware of the evil.

Can a parade tell them anything they do not already know?

Randolph's group is loudly claiming that they will have between 50,000 and 100,000 Negroes parading in Washington on July 1, 1941.

This will be a great boon to the railroad companies and to the oil and gas stations in Washington and vicinity, but it will certainly be a hardship on the marchers.

Everybody knows that 500 Negro visitors to Washington are sufficient to more than tax the eating and housing facilities available to colored people, while 1,000 visitors would swamp them, and 50,000 would cause a riot.

Visionaries who think up those crackpot schemes never completely visualize the difficulties and dangers, nor the discomforts and expense to others. We doubt if these people even have plans to handle 5,000 visiting Negroes, let alone 50,000.

The most effective way of influencing Congress and the Administration is by personal letters and telegrams from individuals, societies, church congregations, clubs and fraternities; by memorials and resolutions sent to both Houses, and by intelligent personal representations.

But in view of the usual temperature in Washington on July 1, we have a sneaking suspicion that there will be far less than the heralded 50,000 Negroes present on that date to pound the hot pavements and stand in the sun listening to the rounded phrases of Brother Randolph and Co.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Proposed March On Washington To Dramatize National Defense Bias

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH is chairman of a movement to mobilize 50,000 colored Americans to march on Washington for jobs and justice in National defense.

The idea is to stage something drastic and colossal so as to attract attention and to convince Americans of all classes and types that colored Americans are citizens; that they will assume all the responsibilities that go with that citizenship; that they will not accept less than full rights and privileges which that citizenship demands.

The march on Washington is scheduled for July first. Those who are in dead earnest about equality in the defense program should join the march. It will require only a little effort and money.

If the protest is to be effective and give an accurate picture of what the American colored people actually think about the defense program, a large crowd should flood Washington.

Join in the march to Washington July 1st. The time to protest and fight for full American citizenship is now!

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

NEGROES OUT TO SHAKE NATION IN DEFENSE JOB CAMPAIGN

By A. PHILIP RANDOLPH

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On to Washington!
Let the Negro masses march!
Let the Negro masses speak!

41-1941

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Rogers Says:-

MARCH ON WASHINGTON AN EFFECTIVE MEANS OF FORCING DEMOCRACY

BY J. A. ROGERS

CERTAIN objections have been made against the march of Negroes on Washington but the reasons in its favor are very much stronger. To name a few:

1. Negroes are so disunited in the struggle for their rights that anything that will get them into the habit of getting together is good.

2. The nation-wide, even world-wide, publicity that the march will create, will serve to focus the attention of the nation and the world on the Negro's plight in this country. Any number of white Americans can be found who will go off into heavenly raptures about this country being the fortress of democracy and human rights and forget the Negro entirely. When Negroes do not call attention to themselves, they are promptly forgotten like the merchant who does not advertise.

Mr. Rogers

3. Getting together and being seen is far more effective than anything you can write in book or newspaper. Washington, one of the worst jim-crow cities in America, will be seeing Negroes parading and asking, in that boasted world center of justice and democracy, for the ordinary rights of American citizenship.

SOME WILL BE TOUCHED

SOME of the more humane, but unthinking, white people will be touched. Even a Congressman, here and there, might be affected. The silent parade of Negroes in New York City in 1917 against the East St. Louis massacre forced that great humanitarian, Woodrow Wilson, out of his democratic silence and made him say something against the butchery of Negroes by white mobs.

Again, a march of Negroes on Washington demanding the end of Hitlerism in America will be quite a sight at this time for the representatives of Hitler and Mussolini who are in that city.

These are just a few of the reasons. There are perhaps even better ones that I haven't thought of.

Negroes will never get anywhere in this country until they begin taking more interest in themselves, until they begin to feel that they are human beings in the fullest sense of the word. There are hundreds of individual Negroes, who are as capable in their respective fields as any white person, but these Negroes are generally marked down by their own people just because certain white people in power have done the same.

For instance, when it was proposed that the late Robert L. Vann be appointed associate justice of the United States Supreme Court, I heard several Negroes, who didn't know the first thing about it, say that no Negro was qualified for such a post. Yet, is not James F. Byrnes, a white man, who knows much less about law than scores of Negro lawyers, now on that bench?

NOW IS THE TIME

NOW IS the time when there is so much talk about democracy to call the hand of those who are so wrought up over democracy for the Scandinavians, Belgians, French and others in Europe, and the Chinese in China, but deny the same to American citizens within the sound of their voice.

Now is the time when every white minority group in America is taking advantage of the Hitler scare in Europe to agitate for their rights here in America for the Negroes to do the same. After this war it might be too late. It is even possible for Negroes, if they do not stand together now, to lose their gains of the past.

There are many number of Negroes in fairly good jobs who are quite callous. But these should remember what happened to the Jews in Germany, who were much better off and far stronger socially and economically. In less than four years, the Jews had lost every right—rights that had taken them a century to win.

IT CAN HAPPEN HERE

There was a time in this country when Negroes were prohibited by law—as late as 1837, or later—from handling the United States mails. The same can happen again. That what has happened before can happen again is a historical truism.

FINALLY, I know of no more honest, sincere and courageous leader than A. Philip Randolph who is organizing this march. His magazine, The Messenger, was suppressed by the Department of Justice in the last war because of its unflinching stand for Negro rights. While many a Negro leader since has fallen by the wayside, Randolph has carried on with unabated determination.

P. S. In last week's column the quotation from Senator Byrnes which read: "God Almighty intended that a white man and a black man should live in terms of social equality," ought to have read "never intended."

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

RACE LEADERS STAND PAT ON JOB DEMANDS

Refuse To Accede To President's Request To Call Off March

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Appointment by President Roosevelt of a committee to make a study of discrimination practiced against Negroes in various phases of the national defense program and to offer to him recommendations for effectively handling them developed from a significant conference held in the cabinet room of the White House.

The conference was called at the request of the President and the secretaries of war and the navy in an effort to appease Randolph to whom appeals had been made to call off his projected march on Washington July 1, a mass demonstration against injustices which Race members are suffering under the defense program.

One of the proposals the committee was to weigh at its first meeting scheduled for Monday, July 23, was one made by the President that a special board be set up to receive and act upon complaints of racial discrimination in the defense program.

Named as chairman of the committee was New York's mayor, Fiorello La Guardia, director of civilian defense.

The White House conference, which marked a significant change in the attitude of the administration toward the oft-voiced complaints of the Race, brought together a group of distinguished Race and governmental leaders.

They included: the President, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, William S. Knudsen and Sidney Hillman, co-directors of the Office of Production Management; Mayor Fiorello H. La Guardia of New York; Aubrey Williams, director of the National Youth administration; Anna Rosenberg, co-ordinator of the Social Security Board; Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Frank R. Crosswaith, chairman of the Negro Labor committee; Layle Lane, vice president of the American Federation of Teachers and A. Philip Randolph, national director of the Negro March-On-Washington committee.

At the beginning of the conference, President Roosevelt expressed his firm and positive and definite opposition to the march on Washington. He stated in his characteristic, emphatic manner, that it is bad and unintelligent.

He continued problems of discrimination from which Negroes suffer have to be dealth with by methods that are well thought out and planned, but that a march on Washington would give the impression to the American people that Negroes are seeking to exercise force to compel the government to do certain things and this attitude will do more harm than good.

Randolph explained to the President the cause and nature of the Negro march-on-Washington movement, pointing out that a wave of resentment, bitterness, disillusionment and desperation was sweeping the Negroes throughout the country because of discriminations in national defense and federal departments of the government.

He insisted that the Negroes are demanding action that will provide jobs for them in all national defense industries. He stated that an executive order was necessary that had teeth in it that would compel defense industries to give Negroes employment.

Randolph asserted that the march-on-Washington movement was not planned, developed and fostered by irresponsible, wild-eyed crackpots, but that it is sponsored and carried on by a national committee composed of sane, sober and responsible Negro citizens, many of whom he named.

But the President reiterated his opposition, stating that he thought it was a grave mistake and would not accomplish the object sought, but on the contrary may create serious trouble.

The President said, "What would happen if Irish and Jewish people were to march on Washington?" He said, "It would create resentment among the American people because such a march would be considered as an effort to coerce the government and make it do certain things."

Randolph stated, "There is no comparison between a march on Washington by Jews and Irish people, and the Negroes. The public knows that the Negroes have justification for bringing their grievances to the President and to present them to the American people."

When Randolph requested the President to speak to the marchers, replied that he could not speak to them because he does not speak to any groups who come to Washington. Walter White reminded the President that he had spoken to the American Youth Congress.

A little nonplussed he replied, "And you see what happened, too."

At the time the President spoke to the American Youth Congress, he was booed and hissed. White assured him that no such conduct would be carried on by Negroes at the rally at the Lincoln Memorial. The President, however, did not relent in his opposition to the march on Washington.

However, President Roosevelt definitely stated that he wanted to see discrimination against Negroes in national defense eliminated, and that he would put the force and weight of the office of the President behind efforts to secure jobs for qualified Negroes in the defense program.

Walter White observed that discriminations against Negroes in defense industries were increasing and that Negroes who were seeking to work out a program with the government to remove these discriminations had been given the run-around, and hence, the Negroes had come to the conclusion that this march on Washington was the only

effective thing that could be done at this time.

When it was pointed out to the President that Negroes could be nothing but messmen in the navy and that some of them had been summarily discharged merely because they had protested against discriminations in the navy, the President replied that Negroes could become petty officers in the navy and that he did not consider that they performed only menial work. He said that the stokers in the ships performed more menial jobs than the messmen and that all of the men who man the ships had a common task to perform.

After the conference had continued for 30 or more minutes, the President stated that he wanted the conference to continue without him since he had to leave for other duties and that he wanted the department heads who were in that conference to discuss this whole matter with the Negro leaders with a view to finding some remedy and the proper method for meeting the problem of discrimination against Negroes in national defense.

Before leaving the President suggested that a board which would receive and investigate complaints by Negroes or any one else about discriminations they faced in defense industry. He said that he thought one of the difficulties Negroes faced was that they had nowhere to present their grievances and complaints when they were victims of discrimination by defense industries.

White suggested that he didn't think much of such a board unless it had some power. He asked the President whether such a board would derive its power from him. The President stated that if the study of the problem showed that such a board was practicable, he would place the full weight of his office behind it.

He expressed the feeling that the setting up of such a board should be given some thought and should be a part of the program in trying to find a remedy for the problem of the Negro in national defense.

After the President left, Secretary of War Stimson presided and Sidney Hillman reported that some progress was being made by the labor department of the Office of Production Management in breaking down barriers to Negroes in defense industries.

Randolph observed that the instances were too few and fragmentary to represent any fundamental change in the policy toward the employment of Negroes on defense jobs.

Hillman stated that he was in favor of carrying out any policy that might be promulgated by the President to eliminate discriminations against Negroes in defense employment, and that OPM was doing everything possible to break down racial barriers in defense works now.

Randolph asked Hillman would he withdraw a contract from a business concern which practiced discriminations against Negroes and denied them jobs. Hillman did not answer this question directly but stated that there are many factors involved in such a situation and that national defense had to come first.

Aubrey Williams, director of the NYA pointed out that he considered it practicable and feasible for the government to place provisions in contracts which would require the employment of Negroes. Mayor LaGuardia asserted that he thought that such a plan was practicable and that it could be included in an executive order issued by the President.

William S. Knudsen of the Office of Production Management said that he did not think that an executive order was necessary. He said that his experience is that more can be done through persuasion and education than by force.

Randolph observed that it was not enough to depend on persuasion and education since this process had been proved to be ineffective so far. He stated that there are many production managers of great industries who won't pay attention to education and persuasion and who would persist in going right on with discrimination against Negroes.

Knudsen observed that it is his conviction that force is not the remedy which this march on Washington represented. He also pointed out that when he received the letter from Randolph inviting him to speak to the rally of Negroes at the Lincoln Memorial, he took it up with Hillman and told him that he thought it was wrong since it gave the impression that the march was intended to make the leaders of the government do certain things.

White pointed out to Knudsen that a manager of certain aircraft factories had stated that he would only employ Negroes even as janitors and Knudesn replied that he knew this man and that he was misrepresented by newspaper men.

The question of the Negro was raised and Secretary Knox, when Randolph observed that Negroes had no opportunities for advancement in the navy, said that he wanted to ask Randolph a direct question and that he hoped he would receive an honest reply.

Secretary Knox asked, "Would you take the position that Negro and white sailors should be compelled to live together on ships?"

Randolph answered, "Yes! It is perfectly fantastic for anyone to contend that Negro and white sailors cannot get along together."

He pointed out that in most of the large cities even of the South, Negro and white workers were in the same post office as clerks and letter carriers, and that Negro and white bricklayers worked on the same buildings together.

Secretary Knox replied that during these times of national defense experiments of this kind cannot be carried on. Randolph answered that national defense, to be effective, depends upon national unity, and national unity is a question of morale.

"If one-tenth of the population, the Negro people," he said, "are dissatisfied and dicontented over discriminations and injustices to which they are subjected in national defense, there can be no genuine national unity."

Layle Lane, vice president of the American Federation of Teachers, pointed out that a larger question of Negroes' being integrated into American democracy and freedom was also necessary for the government to frankly and courageously face. She said that if the government really wants to assume the leadership in fighting for the preservation of democratic institutions and traditions, it would have to recognize that it cannot ignore the rights of the Negroes.

White stated that another necessary and vital step which was needed to be taken was an amendment of the National Labor Relations act to provide that no union which habitually discriminates against Negroes should receive any benefits under the act.

Anna Rosenberg, of the Social Security Board, stated that she considered this impracticable and that it would receive the opposition of organized labor. But White insisted that some legislation of this nature was necessary to meet the problem of discrimination against Negroes by trade unions.

Miss Rosenberg continued that if an executive order by the President provided for the employment of Negroes by defense industries that received government contracts, the question of union discrimination would be met.

Frank R. Crosswaith stated that some action had to be taken to make trade unions realize that they must give workers an opportunity to become members of them regardless of race or color, and that employers that have government contracts should not be permitted to

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

POSTPONE MARCH ON WASHINGTON

The calling off of the march on Washington by the Negroes as a protest against discrimination by the director of the Negro March-on-Washington Committee A. Philip Randolph, was, we think a logical and sensible move. And the committee with which he was working is to be congratulated for its fine judgment at a very critical time in the life and well being of the Negroes in this country.

Thank goodness, that because of the way and manner in which the committee conducted its affairs in preparation of the march, there can be no charge of "selling out" which so frequently follows when leaders change their course for what they regard as the best interests of all concerned.

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The committee also heard statements from Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson; Secretary of Navy Frank Knox; William S. Knudsen and Sidney Hillman, directors of the Office of Production Management; Aubrey Williams, director of the National Youth Administration; Anna Rosenberg, coordinator of the Social Security Board, all of whom agreed with the statement of the President that it would be a mistake on the part of Negro leaders to conduct a march on the nation's capitol July the first. Listening to these statements were: Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Frank R. Crosswaith, chairman of the Negro Labor Committee; Layle Lane, vice president of the American Federation of Teachers; and A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and national director of the Negro March on Washington Committee. Other members of this committee who were not present, included: Rev. William Lloyd Imes, St. James Presbyterian Church; Lester B. Granger, national Urban League; Richard Parrish of the Association of Negro College Students of New York; Dr. Rayford Logan, Howard University; J. Finley Wilson, I.B.P.O.E of W.; Rev. Adam C. Powell, Jr., pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church; Noah Walters and E. E. Williams, directors of unions in New York.

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Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

effective thing that could be done at this time.

When it was pointed out to the President that Negroes could be employed in the navy doing nothing but messmen in the navy, and that some of them had been summarily discharged merely because they had protested against discriminations in the navy, the President replied that Negroes could become petty officers in the navy and that he did not consider that they performed only menial work. He said that the stokers in the ships performed more menial jobs than the messmen and that all of the men who man the ships had a common task to perform.

After the conference had continued for 30 or more minutes, the President stated that he wanted the conference to continue without him since he had to leave for other duties and that he wanted the department heads who were in that conference to discuss this whole matter with the Negro leaders with a view to finding some remedy and the proper method for meeting the problem of discrimination against Negroes in national defense.

Before leaving the President suggested that a board which would receive and investigate complaints by Negroes or any one else about discriminations they faced in defense industry. He said that he thought one of the difficulties Negroes faced was that they had no where to present their grievances and complaints when they were victims of discrimination by defense industries.

White suggested that he didn't think much of such a board unless it had some power. He asked the President whether such a board would derive its power from him. The President stated that if the study of the problem showed that such a board was practicable, he would place the full weight of his office behind it.

He expressed the feeling that the setting up of such a board should be given some thought and should be a part of the program in trying to find a remedy for the problem of the Negro in national defense.

After the President left, Secretary of War Stimson presided and Sidney Hillman reported that some progress was being made by the labor department of the Office of Production Management in breaking down barriers to Negroes in defense industries.

Randolph observed that the instances were too few and fragmentary to represent any fundamental change in the policy toward employment of Negroes on defense jobs.

Hillman stated that he was in favor of carrying out any policy that might be promulgated by the President to eliminate discriminations against Negroes in defense employment, and that OPM was doing everything possible to break down racial barriers in defense works now.

Randolph asked Hillman would he withdraw a contract from a business concern which practiced discriminations against Negroes and denied them jobs. Hillman did not answer this question directly but stated that there are many factors involved in such a situation and that national defense had to come first.

Aubrey Williams, director of the NYA pointed out that he considered it practicable and feasible for the government to place provisions in contracts which would require the employment of Negroes. Mayor LaGuardia asserted that he thought that such a plan was practicable and that it could be included in an executive order issued by the President.

William S. Knudsen of the Office of Production Management said that he did not think that an executive order was necessary. He said that his experience is that more can be done through persuasion and education than by force.

Randolph observed that it was not enough to depend on persuasion and education since this process had been proved to be ineffective so far. He stated that there are many production managers of great industries who won't pay attention to education and persuasion and who would persist in going right on with discrimination against Negroes.

Knudsen observed that it is his conviction that force is not the remedy which this march on Washington represented. He also pointed out that when he received the letter from Randolph inviting him to speak to the rally of Negroes at the Lincoln Memorial, he took it up with Hillman and told him that he thought it was wrong since it gave the impression that the march was intended to make the leaders of the government do certain things.

White pointed out to Knudsen that a manager of certain aircraft factories had stated that he would only employ Negroes even as janitors and Knudesn replied that he knew this man and that he was misrepresented by newspaper men.

The question of the Negro was raised and Secretary Knox, when Randolph observed that Negroes had no opportunities for advancement in the navy, said that he wanted to ask Randolph a direct question and that he hoped he would receive an honest reply.

Secretary Knox asked, "Would you take the position that Negro and white sailors should be compelled to live together on ships?" Randolph answered, "Yes! It is perfectly fantastic for anyone to contend that Negro and white sailors cannot get along together."

He pointed out that in most of the large cities even of the South, Negro and white workers were in the same post office as clerks and letter carriers, and that Negro and white bricklayers worked on the same buildings together.

Secretary Knox replied that during these times of national defense, experiments of this kind cannot be carried on. Randolph answered that national defense, to be effective, depends upon national unity, and national unity is a question of morale.

"If one-tenth of the population, the Negro people," he said, "are dissatisfied and dicontented over discriminations and injustices to which they are subjected in national defense, there can be no genuine national unity."

Layle Lane, vice president of the American Federation of Teachers, pointed out that a larger question of Negroes' being integrated into American democracy and freedom was also necessary for the government to frankly and courageously face. She said that if the government really wants to assume the leadership in fighting for the preservation of democratic institutions and traditions, it would have to recognize that it cannot ignore the rights of the Negroes.

White stated that another necessary and vital step which was needed to be taken was an amendment of the National Labor Relations act to provide that no union which habitually discriminates against Negroes should receive any benefits under the act.

Anna Rosenberg, of the Social Security Board, stated that she considered this impracticable and that it would receive the opposition of organized labor. But White insisted that some legislation of this nature was necessary to meet the problem of discrimination against Negroes by trade unions.

Miss Rosenberg continued that if an executive order by the President provided for the employment of Negroes by defense industries that received government contracts, the question of union discrimination would be met.

Frank R. Crosswaith stated that some action had to be taken to make trade unions realize that they must give workers an opportunity to become members of them regardless of race or color, and that employers that have government contracts should not be permitted to

POSTPONE MARCH ON WASHINGTON

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MARCH ON WASHINGTON

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

"March To Washington" Campaign For Defense Jobs Gains Momentum

A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and director of the Negro "March-on-Washington" campaign conferring with Herbert Cook, chairman of National Negro Day Committee on the march on City Hall, Friday, June 27, and the one on Washington, July 1st. The movement is gaining support from all over the country and 100,000 Negroes are expected to be in the Nation's Capital to protest discrimination against them in Defense Industries, the Army, Navy, Air and Marine Corps. (See Story).

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla

A Democratic Encyclical

July 1, 10.000 unemployed Negroes will march on Washington. This will be the biggest job hunt ever staged by the American Negro. One week earlier thousands of Negroes will throng Houston, Texas, there also to declare their right to emolument and privilege in citizenship.

The July trek to Washington will represent the transient, impulsive caprice of the masses. The meeting the week before will represent thirty-two years of achievement in the field of racial betterment. The July march will be as the fleeting meteor that sweeps across the sky. The earlier assembly has its roots in permanently organized might.

With war clouds hanging heavily over America at the present moment it is important that the Houston meeting be well attended, and that in a united way, bronze-hued citizens of this republic deliver an encyclical to democracy.

The people who talk at the present moment about democracy know nothing about Lincoln's conception of a government "of, for and by the people." The people who today are shouting loudest against totalitarianism are themselves Hitlerites. Why should interpretation of democracy be left to them?

The reason why the American constitution is the great document it is, rests in the fact that its authors came from the ranks of those who suffered the heel of tyranny. Men have to live in a problem to understand it. That is why God is going to allow Jesus Christ to judge the world. The Lowly Nazarene came down here on earth and suffered the pains of humanity. Jesus Christ knows the problems of the world and it is He who can best sit in wise and considered judgment.

Today, the Negro in America who suffers in the atmosphere of proscription, hate and prejudice, is better fitted to present to the world higher moral philosophy than anyone else. The conscience of mankind is refined in the fires of hell. Democracy has a higher and nobler meaning to the black man than it could possibly have for white folk of the present period. This is one of the paradoxes of circumstance and environment.

And so it is that Negroes should turn their faces toward Houston during the last week in June to talk about the things that ought to be. America needs, but seeks to ignore the thought-life of Negroes. This is proven when we observe that the opinion of Negro leaders is not today considered by the white press. Read if you will, all of the important dailies scanned by millions of Americans. Discover if you will, the scant amount of space given to the opinion of outstanding Negroes. The silence of the white press regarding Negro thought life is evidence of intent to ignore.

And yet in this hour when decocracy is hanging in the balances, it is only the Negro who can with sincerity say, "You cannot secure social justice without attempting interracial justice."

Only the Negro can warn again "Union now and entangling foreign alliances." It is the Negro who can see with clarity of vision that union with Great Britain would mean clamping on these shores the brutal colonial philosophy as practiced in Africa, India and the isles of the sea. Few but black Americans see this picture. Shall American foreign policy of the future justify human slavery?

At Houston, Texas, polite America will be shocked out of self-satisfaction and moral complacency. The mob, disfranchisement, segregation, Jim Crow discrimination in national defense, and a score of other obvious national shames which prove the lack of democracy on these shores, will be brought to the attention of those who serve democracy only with their lips. Only in Houston will democracy get the bath of truth needed for moral awakening.

Only the Negro can talk of brotherhood in these days of trouble, even though his voice is not heard above the din and clamor of the multitude, for out of travail and sorrow here in America, the black man has emerged without rancor in his heart, but with love for all America. So at Houston, Texas, there will stand a group of bronzed American citizens patriotic, and with the courage to fight twin battles; first to strike at alien enemies without and subversive elements within. Devoted, patient, patriotic Negroes in America, conscious of their American citizenship will be at Houston, Texas, fighting for the right to fight, and fighting for the realities of democracy.

Durham, N. C., Morning Herald
June 22, 1941

NEGRO LEADER HERE WILL NOT SUPPORT PLAN OF COMMITTEE

Refuses To Contribute To Organization—Backs Roosevelt's Policies

The Negro March-On-Washington Committee of New York will get no financial or moral support from C. C. Spaulding, local Negro financier and race relations official, it was revealed here yesterday.

Spaulding, president of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, yesterday took exception to suggestions of the "Negro March-On-Washington Commtitee," in a letter to the president of the organization. For a number of years President Spaulding has been an outstanding member of North Carolina's Interracial Committee, and has accomplished much for his people.

In his letter to President Spaulding asking for funds and moral support in the proposed "March-On-Washington," July 1, A. Philip Randolph, director of the organization, suggests drastic action. His letter is as follows:

"This letter brings you a message of a life and death struggle of Negroes for jobs in national defense. It has already gotten results, for it is the direct and only reason for President Roosevelt's first statement to the Negro people of America

"But this is not enough. We want him to issue an executive order abolishing discriminations in national defense and departments of Federal Government, the army, navy, the marine and air corps. If the President can issue an executive order to take over an aircraft plant to stop a strike, he can issue an executive order to compel all plants with Government defense contracts to put the Negroes to work on population ratio basis. This is the purpose of the march on Washington.

"Now, this march is costing money and will cost much more money. We started with nothing. We are getting some cooperation, but now we have reached the point where we need quite a bit of funds immediately.

"Since this march may mean hundreds of millions of dollars in wages to Negroes and thousands of jobs, it will benefit all Negroes and all institutions among Negroes.

"Therefore, I, in the name of the Negro March-On-Washington Committee, am calling upon you for a contribution of $500—if possible—or as much as you can give. This movement is for the benefit of no individual. The NAACP has put in $200 for the march, the Negro Labor Commtitee has contributed $50; the Mount Olive Baptist Church of New York, $114.40; the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, of which I am the international president, has contributed over one thousand ($1,000) dollars, and will contribute more. The NAACP has agreed to contribute more.

"The expenses of the march are mounting higher and higher, because we have got to make it big, so that it will be effective.

"There are some white people upon whom we could call for support, but we won't because we feel that this is the Negroes' fight and they ought to pay for it.

"Won't you let me hear from you immediately on this matter? Time is going and we are going to march July 1.

"As one of the great Negro leaders of the nation, I want to invite you to join the front ranks of the march in Washington.

"Sincerely yours,

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH,
Director,
Negro March-On-Washington
Committee."

In his reply President Spaulding wrote as follows:

"Knowing the splendid service you have rendered the Negroes of America as president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, it is difficult for me to differ with you on any matter. However, I am sure that you want me to be candid and frank in expressing my views with reference to your communication of June 17.

"In times like these when the democracy of America is being threatened, I do not think the Negro March-On-Washington is the proper approach in acquiring more recognition for Negroes in securing jobs in our national defense setup. I concur with the statement uttered by our First Lady, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, regarding this move.

"There is a time for all things and this is a time for patriotism. I do not believe that this is the time for us, who are a part of this great American democracy, to prosecute the plan of your committee.

"So far as making a contribution of $500 to assist in financing your project, our company is not permitted to spend the funds of its policyholders in this manner and personally, I am unable to do so.

"Best wishes,

Very truly yours,
C. C. SPAULDING, President."

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.
JUL 12 1941

Aids Negroes In Campaign

First Lady Agrees F. D.'s Executive Order Must Be Strengthened

BY J. ROBERT SMITH

Even Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, the First Lady of the Land is in accord with the set policy of the Negro March-on-Washington Committee that Negroes should not be satisfied with the President's executive order alone but go to halt discriminations against Negroes in National Defense Industries, for in a recent letter to A. Philip Randolph, director of the campaign, she wrote, "I hope from this first step, we may go on to others."

From the interpretation given this part of the text of the First Lady's letter, members of the committee and other leaders of organizations are optimistic that their future battles for inclusion of Negroes in all of the branches of the armed forces of the United States on the same level with whites will gain moral and public-spirited support.

Writing from Campobello Island, New Brunswick, she said, "I am very glad the march has been postponed and delighted that the President is issuing an executive order on defense industries." Her letter was in response to a wire directed to her from Mr. Randolph thanking her for the keen interest she had taken in behalf of Negroes.

Must Apply for Jobs

While the committee awaits the appointment of the Five-man Committee by President Roosevelt, Mr. Randolph issued the following statement encouraging Negroes to apply for jobs, for which they are qualified, in all industries.

"It is advisable that large numbers of Negroes apply for employment in all industries for all types of work. They should carefully note whatever is said to them by any of the managers of these defense industries, especially if they are refused employment and whatever excuses are given for said refusal.

"If there is no Negro March-on-Washington Committee in the city and Negro workers who apply for jobs are discriminated against, these workers should make known their complaints to the National Negro Committee to March-on-Washington at 217 West 125th Street, New York City, or to any of the local community agencies such as the Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., Urban League, N. A. A. C. P. or the local division of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, or at any Negro trade union or church, so that action may be taken in respect to this discrimination, forthwith.

"It is apparent that the effectiveness of the executive order, banning discrimination in defense industries because of race, color, creed or national origin, will depend upon the policing of the order in concrete, individual and special cases of discrimination against Negroes.

"The committee appointed by the President will only be able to function effectively when, as and if actual cases of discriminations with respect to employment opportunities for Negro workers are presented to it with verifiable facts to support the charges of discriminations, such as the statements made to Negro workers when they apply for jobs by the managers of the factories."

Employing Negroes

A check with the New York Urban League, this week showed that already industries whose policies prior to the issuance of the executive order were "anti-Negro" have broken down their racial barriers and have employed Negroes.

The Brewster Aeronautical Corporation of Long Island City on Tuesday employed six Negro aviation mechanics, the first group of skilled Negro workers to be employed by this company.

The six, who are graduates in aviation trades of New York City vocational high schools are Charles Hunt, 1[illegible] Southern Boulevard, Bronx; Herman Campbell, 1061 Boston Road, Bronx; Burrell Sampson, 308 West 151st Street; James Pennington, 2457 Seventh Avenue; Joseph Whitfield, 219 Ashland Place, Brooklyn, and Jules Haywood, 1492 Pacific Street, Brooklyn. They will be placed in the fabrication department as sheet metal workers.

The files of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People revealed that the Bethlehem Ship Building Company with headquarters at 25 Broadway, refused to employ Samuel A. Brown, of Port Richmond, who has had special instruction in welding at the New York Technical School, "because there were many Southern men in that department and they just did not fit in with them."

The Curtiss-Wright Manufacturing Company in Paterson, N. J., employs about 70 Negroes as janitors and laborers, but not as mechanics. They went on record as stating, "that they will continue their efforts" despite the fact that the Office of Production Management has investigated their plant in an endeavor to get them to cease their anti-Negro policy.

When Ignatius Jackson, of the Bronx, applied for an engineering position at the RCA Manufacturing Company in Camden, N. J., he caused a great deal of confusion in their offices because he was colored.

Jackson was called into a huddle by a subordinate executive who tried to make it clear to him that the policy of the corporation did not permit the employing of a colored man, no matter how competent.

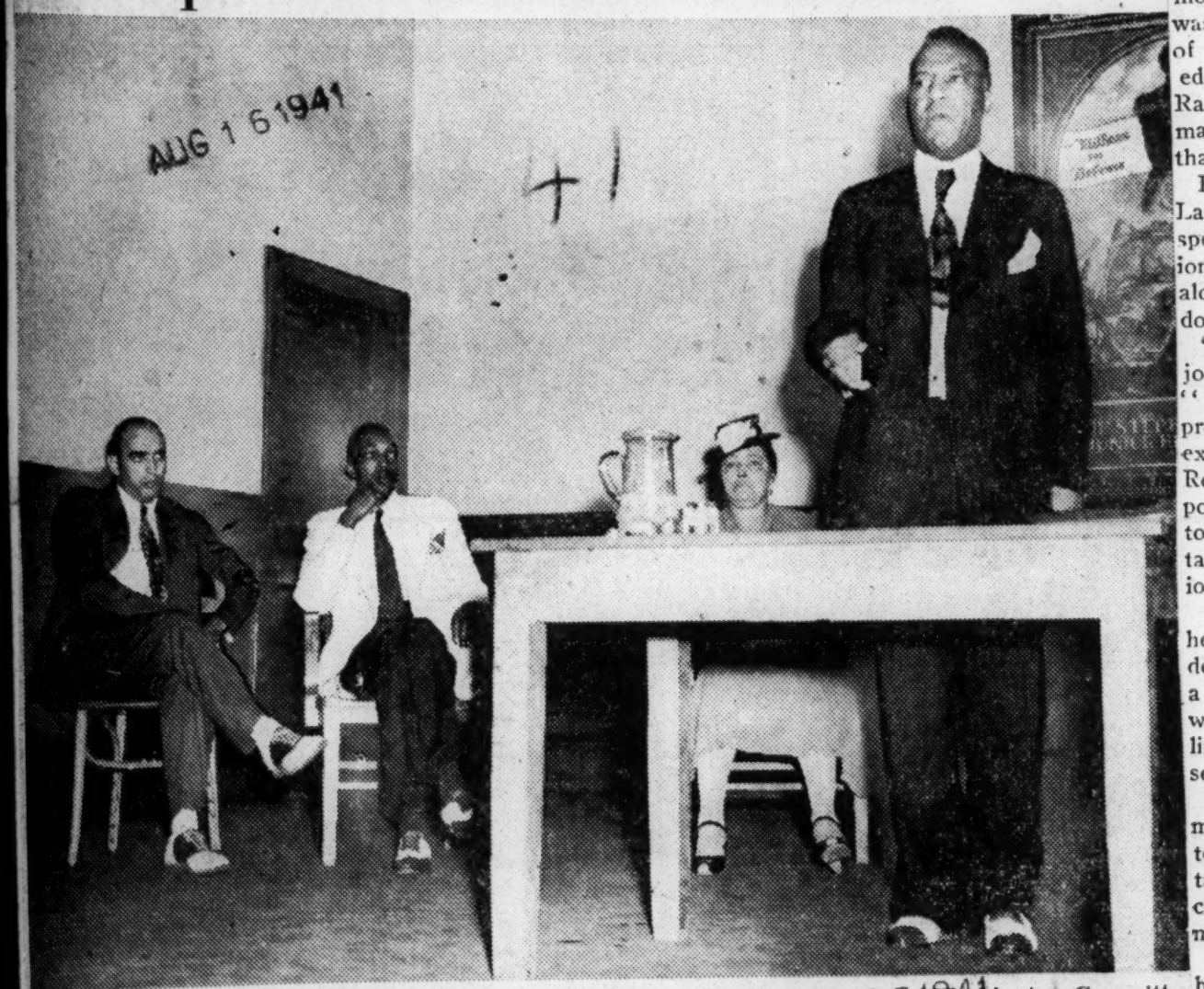
And in Buffalo, N. Y., the Bell Aircraft Company refused to employ Eugene Redding, of New Rochelle and Walter Scott, of Providence, R. I. Both young men studied technical courses along with many whites and were told bluntly not to come to Buffalo, while their classmates were employed.

Negroes in New York State are urgently requested to apply for jobs in defense industries listed below, and should they encounter difficulties they are to report to the headquarters of the Negro March-on-Washington Committee or the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, 217 West 125th Street, or to the Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., N. A. A. C. P., Urban League, churches or any civic organization in New York City

41-1941

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Randolph Tells of Defense Problems



AUG 16 1941

Brooklynites attended a mass meeting sponsored by Brooklyn's March-on-Washington Committee at the Stephen Decatur Junior High School, Lewis Ave. & Decatur St., on Friday night. The above photo of A. Phillip Randolph was snapped during the course of his dynamic talk. Others photographed are Dr. Irving, Charles Berkley and Mrs. Margaret V. Brown. (Story at left)

MARCH- ON- WASHINGTON

No attempt was made to evade the fact that considerable criticism had been levelled at the march committee for its decision to call off the demonstration. In fact, the meeting was intended to give full explanation of the factors involved which prompted this momentous decision. Mr. Randolph, in a clear and forthright manner, succeeded in doing just that.

However, the remarks of Mayor LaGuardia, described by all previous speakers as the ''unrelenting champion in favor of the executive order,'' along with the committee, were no doubt the climax of the evening.

'' I am glad to be called upon to join in the discussion,'' he opened, '' of what is a real landmark in the progress of democracy. I believe the executive order signed by President Roosevelt will remain one of the important public documents in our history, and the man who signed it will take his place among the true champions of liberty and true democracy.

''It may not be a literary gem,'' he continued. ''Its meter might be defective in its poetry, but I am in a position to tell you that the man who signed it believed in it, in every line of it, in every word of every sentence of it.''

He minced no words in lauding members of the March on Washington committee for their sincerity in tackling a problem which had become '' a public scandal against minority groups.''

Turning his attention to the members of the Fair Employment Practice committee, named under the order, the fiery little mayor said: ''This board may be a success for a time —and it will be. But what is important is that I want it to be a success for all time. It will have the opportunity to demonstrate to the entire country what the Negroes of America have produced in the last generation. No group nor race has made as much progress in 70 years as the Negro. You have accomplished and you have produced men and women in the sciences, arts, industries, and professions and athletics that has taken other races generations to produce.''

Considered of paramount importance was the admonition of the speaker, also civilian defense administrator, to guard against claims of discrimination by industry to cover up ''incompetency, dishonesty and immorality.'' While this remark met with wide approbation and had its proper relation to the subject under discussion, many were quick to see the mayor making an indirect defense of his order suspending a Negro city employe on a charge of alleged ''moral turpitude.''

Mr. Randolph also reviewed the circumstances leading to the idea of the march pointing to the need for the development of ''the technique of mass pressure,'' a thing new to the Negro. He scored the ''dreadful conspiracy of silence'' on the part of the whtie press with one exception, that of ''P. M.'' There was praise for the efforts of Mayor LaGuardia and disdain for William S. Knudsen, co-director of Office of Production Management.

Coming to the controversial point, he said: ''Simply stated, the march was postponed because its main objective, namely the issuance of an executive order banning discrimination in national defense, was secured in conference with the president.

''What about discrimination in the departments of the federal government? This was one of our objectives. While it was one of our objejctives, it was not our main objective. We consider that it is more important to get jobs for Negroes in national defense, so that they may get milk and bread for their babies than to get them in the army and navy or air corps, although we shall continue to fight to abolish discriminations in all departments of the government and the armed forces of the nation. This will be the next step in the fight of the march committee movement.

''The National Negro March on Washington Committee would have been placed in an untenable, absurd and ridiculous position had it rejected its chief objective when offered by the president on the grounds that we didn't get everything we wanted as a pretext for marching anyhow.

''I want to make it clear that the purpose of the March on Washington movement was not to serve as an agency to create a continuing state of sullen unrest and blind resentment among Negroes against discriminations. Its purpose was and is to achieve a specific and definite thing, namely, elimination of barriers to jobs for Negroes.''

Declaring that the march committee will be retained and expanded, the national director in stirring and dramatic fashion so typical of him, let it be known that ''we want one

Negro Labor News
Houston, Texas

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH EXPLAINS INSIDE FACTS BEHIND "MARCH ON WASHINGTON" IN NEW YORK CITY

NEW YORK CITY — (By Ernest E. Johnson for ANP)—Three thousand persons crowded into Salem M. E. Church here Tuesday night to hear A. Philip Randolph, Mayor Fiorella H. LaGuardia, David Sarnoff and other personages identified with the circumstances surrounding the executive order issuued by President Roosevelt barring discrimination in the national defense program.

The occasion also marked the first public report from the Negro March on Washington committee since its national director, Mr. Randolph, told a nation-wide radio audience on July 1, that the projected march had been found ''unecessary at this time'' and therefore postponed.

million Negroes organized in these committees to make a power that must be reckoned with."

Bessye Bearden, a deputy collector of internal revenue and leader in women's organizations, pledged the continued support of Negro women. Mrs. Bearden, active in Eastern democratic political circles, was one of the few such persons willing to take a hand in the March on Washington when politicians everywhere were dropping it like a hot poker.

Lester Granger of the National Urban League, Walter White of the N. A. A. C. P., Dr. Channing T. Tobias of the Selective Service administration, and Frank P. Crosswaith of the Negro Labor Committee, all active members of the march committee, made short addresses. In the place of Mark Ethridge, chairman of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, was David Sarnoff, also a member and also president of the Radio Corporation of America, who spoke in behalf of the committee.

Mr. Sarnoff said that to date the committee had done little worth reporting on, but did announce that the administrative personnel would probably be selected at Monday's meeting of the committee following which active work will begin.

Dr. Warren Brown, secretary to the march committee, delivered a report on the finances for the entire venture. The general funds, he said, came from the sale of buttons and contributions by individauls and organizations. Of the total receipts of $2,992.26, a total of $900, was realized on the buttons, the balance coming from the organizations, chief contributors being the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters with $957.89, the NAACP with $543, and various civic, religious and professional organizations with substantial amounts. Expenditures amounted to $2,297.04. The balance was used up to defray the costs of the public meeting at which $107.21 was collected.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

AUG 16 1941

March On Washington Group Cites Major Gains To Date

SEP 27 1941

NEW YORK — Three major achievements have been accomplished by the recently formed Negro March on Washington Committee, according to officials of that group.

Members of the organization point out that the movement united the masses, secured the Executive order, providing for the creation of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, and the responsible for the appointment of two Negroes on the FEPC.

PROGRESS NOTED

The report stated further:

"There are still many defense industries that still discriminate against Negro workers, but it is encouraging also to note that as a result of the executive order, new employment opportunities are opening up."

The release urged against "a sense of false security" and warned against over optimism.

"Negroes must gird to fight on by maintaining the March On Washington Committee to develop an informed and militant Negro opinion to see to it that the order is enforced."

NEGROES EMPLOYED

In addition to the two Negroes, Milton P. Webster, first international vice president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and Earl Dickerson, member of the Chicago Aldermanic Board, there is a staff of workers whose duty it is to carry out the purpose of the Executive Order. Compensation for the members of the professional and clerical staff of the committee range from $9,000 and $5,600 for the administrator and deputy administrator, with field representatives, reasearch and public relations workers whose pay is $3,800, together with office workers—most of the important jobs are filled by Negroes.

41-1941
Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Roosevelt Opposed To March On Washinaton

CABINET MEMBERS AT WHITE HOUSE PARLEY; COMMITTEE IS NAMED

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 26—Declaring that the proposed "March-On-Washington" is both bad and unintelligent, Franklin D. Roosevelt opposed the idea here last Wednesday as members of his cabinet met with officials of the "March" at a White House Conference which is destined to go down in history as epochal.

Present at the conference were President Roosevelt, Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, William S. Knudsen and Sidney Hillman, directors of the Office of Production Management, Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia, New York; Aubrey Williams, Director of NYA; Anna Rosenberg, co-ordinator of the Social Security Board; A. Philip Randolph, National Director of the Negro March-on-Washington committee; Walter White, NAACP executive; Frank R. Crosswaith, chairman of the Negro Labor Committee and Layle Lane, Vice-President of the American Federation of Teachers.

One of the important developments of the conference was the naming of a committee by President Roosevelt, headed by Mayor LaGuardia, to draw up findings and a plan that may serve as a remedy for the question of discriminations against Negroes in national defense.

At the beginning of the conference, President Roosevelt opened up the discussion by expressing his firm and positive and definite opposition to the Negro march on Washington.

He stated in his characteristic, emphatic manner, that it is bad and unintelligent. He continued that problems of discriminations from which Negroes suffer have to be dealt with by methods that are well thought out and planned, but that a march on Washington would give the impression to the American people that Negroes are seeking to exercise force to compel the government to do certain things and this attitude will do more harm than good.

EXECUTIVE ORDER NEEDED—RANDOLPH

Randolph explained to the President the cause and nature of the March-on-Washington movement, pointing out that a wave of resentment, bitterness, disillusionment and desperation was sweeping the Negroes throughout the country because of discriminations in national defense and federal departments of the government.

He insisted that the Negroes are demanding action that will provide jobs for them in all national defense industries. He stated that an executive order was necessary that had teeth in it that would compel defense industries to give Negroes employment.

Mr. Randolph asserted that the march-on-Washington movement was not planned, developed and fostered by any irresponsible, wild-eyed crackpots, but that it is sponsored and carried on by a national committee composed of sane, sober and responsible Negro citizens, including Walter White of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Rev. William Lloyd Imes of the St. James Presbyterian Church; Lester B. Granger of the National Urban League; Frank R. Crosswaith, of the Negro Labor Committee; Layle Lane of the American Federation of Teachers; Richard Parrish, of the Association of Negro College Students of New York; Dr. Rayford Logan of Howard university; J. Finley Wilson of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World; Rev. Adam C. Powell, Jr., of the Abyssinian Baptist Church; Noah Walters, of the Laundry Workers Joint Board and E. [illegible] Williams of the Blasters and Drillers Union, and that none of these people had any sympathy with, or interest in Communism.

The endorsement of the march-on-Washington by the New England Baptist Conference in Philadelphia, June 12th, was also cited together with the support which the movement is receiving from Negro fraternities, sororities, civic and social organizations throughout the country.

PRESIDENT REFUSES TO CHANGE OPINION

But the President reiterated his opposition, stating that he thought it was a grave mistake and would not accomplish the object sought, but on the contrary may create serious trouble. The president said, "What would happen if Irish and Jewish people were to march on Washington?" He said, "It would create resentment among the American people because such a march would be considered as an effort to coerce the government and make it do certain things."

Randolph stated, "There is no comparison between a march on Washington by Jews and Irish people, and the Negroes. The public knows that the Negroes have justification for bringing their grievances to the President and to present them to the American people.

When Mr. Randolph requested the President to speak to the marchers, he replied that he could not speak to them because he does not speak to any groups who come to Washington. Walter White commented that the President had spoken to the American Youth Congress. He was a little nonplussed and added, "and you see what happened, too."

At the time the President spoke to the American Youth Congress, he was booed and hissed by the American Youth Congress which was dominated by Communists. Walter White continued that no such conduct would be carried on by Negroes at the rally at the Lincoln Memorial, but the President did not relent in his opposition to the march on Washington.

WANTS DISCRIMINATION IN DEFENSE ELIMINATED

However, President Roosevelt definitely stated that he wanted to see discriminations against Negroes in national defense eliminated, and that he would put the force and weight of the office of the President behind efforts to secure jobs for qualified Negroes in the defense program.

Walter White observed that discriminations against Negroes in defense industries were increasing and that Negroes who were seeking to work out a program with the government to remove these discriminations had been given the run-around, and hence, the Negroes had come to the conclusion that this march on Washington was the only effective thing that could be done at this time.

BACKS NAVY EXCLUSION

When it was pointed out to the President that Negroes could be nothing but messmen in the Navy and that some of them had been summarily discharged merely because they had protested against discriminations in the Navy, the President replied that Negroes could become petty officers in the Navy and that he did not consider that they performed only menial work. He said that the stokers in the ships performed more menial jobs than the messmen and that all of the men who man the ships had a common task to perform.

ASKS FOR FULL DISCUSSION

After the conference had continued for 30 or more minutes, the President stated that he wanted the conference to continue without him since he had to leave for other duties and that he wanted the department heads who were in that conference to discuss this whole matter with the Negro leaders with a view to finding some remedy and the proper method for meeting the problem of discriminations against Negroes in national defense.

The conference was resumed at the request of the President with all of the persons in attendance in the cabinet room of the White House. Mr. Stimson, Secretary of War, presided.

The discussion was opened up

by Sidney Hillman, who stated that some progress was being made by the Labor Department of the Office of Production Management in breaking down barriers to Negroes in defense industries.

Randolph answered that national defense, to be effective, depends upon national unity, and national unity is a question of morale. If one-tenth of the population, the Negro people, are dissatisfied and discontented over discriminations and injustices to which they are subjected in national defense, there can be no genuine national unity.

CANNOT IGNORE NEGROES

Layle Lane, Vice-President of the American Federation of Teachers, pointed out that a bigger question of Negroes' being integrated into American democracy and freedom was also necessary for the government frankly and courageously to face. She said that if the government really wants to assume the leadership in fighting for the preservation of democratic institutions and traditions, it would have to recognize that it cannot ignore the rights of the Negroes, who represent a large section of the population.

Walter White stated that another necessary and vital step which was needed to be taken was an amendment of the National Labor Relations Act to provide that no union which habitually discriminates against Negroes should receive any benefits under the act.

OPPOSES LABOR BAR

Anna Rosenberg, of the Social Security Board, stated that she considered this impracticable and that it would receive the opposition of organized labor. But Walter White insisted that some legislation of this nature was necessary to meet the problem of discrimination against Negroes by trade unions.

Anna Rosenberg continued that if an executive order by the President provided for the employment of Negroes by defense industries that received Government contracts that the question of union discrimination would be met.

Frank R. Crosswaith stated that some action had to be taken to make trade unions realize that they must give workers an opportunity to become members of them regardless of race or color, and that employers that have government contracts should not be permitted to resort to evasions when the question of the employment of Negroes is presented.

UNANIMOUS IN OPPOSING MARCH

There was no one of the white members of the conference who did not definitely express his opposition to the Negro march on Washington. They were a unit on this, says Randolph, the march leader.

In the President's conference, President Roosevelt suggested that he was giving some thought to the matter of establishing a board which would receive and investigate complaints by Negroes or any one else about discriminations they faced in defense industry.

He said that he thought one of the difficulties Negroes faced was that they had nowhere to come to present their grievances and complaints when they were victims of discrimination by defense industries.

Walter White suggested that he didn't think much of such a board unless it had some power. He asked the President whether such a board would derive its power from him. The President stated that if the study of the problem showed that such a board was practicable, he would place the full weight of his office behind it. He expressed the feeling that the setting up of such a board should be given some thought and should be a part of the program in trying to find a remedy for the problem of the Negro in national defense.

COMMITTEE TO STUDY PROBLEM DESIGNATED

A subcommittee was created out of this large committee, designated by the President to draw up findings and a plan that may serve as a remedy for the question of discriminations against Negroes in national defense. Mayor LaGuardia is acting as chairman of this committee. It met Monday, June 23rd, and A. Philip Randolph met with the committee. When the committee has worked out its findings and plans, they will be presented to the President for his consideration and action.

Randolph observed that the instances were too few and fragmentary to represent any fundamental change in the policy toward the employment of Negroes on defense jobs. Mr. Hillman stated that he was in favor of carrying out any policy that might be promulgated by the President to eliminate discriminations against Negroes in defense employment, and that OPM was doing everything possible to break down racial barriers in defense works now.

FAVORS CONTRACT RESTRICTION

Mr. Randolph asked Mr. Hillman would he withdraw a contract from a business concern which practiced discriminations against Negroes and denied them jobs. Hillman did not answer this question directly but stated that there are many factors involved in such a situation and that national defense had to come first.

Aubrey Williams, Director of the NYA pointed out that he considered it practicable and feasible for the government to place provisions in contracts which would require the employment of Negroes. Mayor LaGuardia asserted that he thought that such a plan was practicable and that it could be included in an executive order issued by the President.

William S. Knudsen of the Office of Production Management said that he did not think that an executive order was necessary. He said that his experience is that more can be done through persuasion and education than by force. He stated that some time in July he planned to make a trip which would take him to all concerns that have defense contracts and that it was his purpose to look into the question of employment as it affects Negroes.

Randolph observed that it was not enough to depend on persuasion and education since this process had been proved to be ineffective so far. He stated that there are many production managers of great industries that won't pay any attention to education and persuasion and who would persist in going right on with discrimination against Negroes.

Knudsen said that it is his conviction that force is not the remedy which this march on Washington represented.

The question of the Negro in the Navy was raised and Mr. Knox, when Randolph observed that Negroes had no opportunities for advancement in the Navy, commented that he wanted to ask Mr. Randolph a direct question and that he hoped he would receive an honest reply. Mr. Knox asked would you take the position that Negro and white sailors should be compelled to live together on ships. Randolph answered: "Yes. It is perfectly fantastic for anyone to contend that Negro and white sailors cannot get along together."

He pointed out that in most of the large cities of the South Negro and white workers were in the same post office as clerks and letter carriers, and that Negro and white bricklayers worked on the same buildings together. Secretary Knox replied that during these times of national defense experiments of this kind cannot be carried on.

New York Age

New York, N. Y.

JUN 28 1941

THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON

REALIZING THAT PUBLICITY arising from the March of thousands of Negroes on the Capitol in Washington, demanding a chance to share in the jobs created by the defense program, will be used by Nazi propaganda agents to show that there is no real democracy in this country, high government officials have been bringing pressure to bear in the past few weeks to have the march called off. Even the President has issued a statement deploring discrimination in industry, and last week promised a delegation of Negroes that he would see to it that this practice is stopped.

Flattered as we are by this belated attention from the President, we cannot but feel opposed to any move to call off the march to Washington until such a time as the President has issued an executive order to end discrimination in the selection of the personnel of the Army and Navy and Air Corps, and the various governmental bureaus in Washington. There is little likelihood that private industry will do any different than at the present time, for the industrialists can very well point to the federal government itself and say 'you clean house first before talking to us about discrimination."

Mr. Randolph and his associates started the March on Washington movement as a movement to benefit the masses, and the popular response received through contributions and sale of buttons to finance the March indicate that they have the support of Negroes generally throughout the country. If they call the March off at this time, before any tangible improvement has been made, it will be charged that they are no better than other racial leaders who sell out their people for personal gain whenever the opportunity presents itself.

National unity in this country can only be achieved by putting an end to discrimination and unjust treatment to minority groups, especially the Negro, and until such time as the federal administration sets the example of fair play to all its citizens, other groups will not be impressed by any words from the nation's leaders deploring job barriers.

41-1941

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Conference on Education to Open Today

Noted Scholars to Talk At Week-End Parley At Harvard

MAR 29 1941

Outstanding scholars in four different fields will address the National Conference for Democracy in Education to be held at Harvard University today and tomorrow, Janet Skner, president of the Middle Atlantic Region of the National Student Federation of America announced today.

Miss Skner is secretary of the Planning Committee for the Harvard Conference. The Conference has been called by 100 student government leaders, officers of the Student Christian movement, college newspaper editors, and educators to "defend education against a wave of the 1917 variety of intolerance that is being fostered on the campus."

MAR 29 1941

Jack McMichael, chairman of the American Youth Congress will deliver the opening address to the Conference this morning. At tonight's session, Miss Skner said, Dr. Doxey Wilkerson of Howard University will speak on "History Gets Kicked Around."

"Social Science—Factual or Hysterical" will be considered by Dr. Colston Warne of Amherst College,

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Students Launch United Defense of Education in U.S.

APR 1 1941

National Conference at Harvard Closes on Militant Note to Throw Back Witch-Hunt Attacks; Panels Push Program of Democracy in Schools Today

By Joseph Clark
(Special to the Daily Worker)

APR 1 1941

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., March 31.—Machinery for a nationally unified movement of American students to defeat reactionary assaults on education was established at the closing sessions of the National Conference for Democracy in Education. Following a report by Len Detweiler of the National Inter-Collegiate Christian Council, for the resolutions committee, the conference accepted a comprehensive resolution on democratic education.

"American is rigtfully proud," the resolution states, "of its heritage of democratic education founded through long years of concerted effort by enlightened educators, the American Labor movement and the entire American people.

"That great heritage is based upon the inviolable principle that the right to full education cannot be limited to a privileged few, but must be extended to all regardless of economic status, race, color and sex."

This major resolution of the conference then describes how the same forces which gagged and regimented the American campus in 1917 are trying blackout education today in their drive for war involvement.

APR 1 1941

ASSAILS SCHOOL WRECKERS

The program set forth as a guids for the American student body in the resolution calls for opposition to those who are slashing educational budgets under guise of "combatting subversive influences." It condemns vicious practices of discrimination against Negro students and proposes a campaign to protect the health, welfare and civil liberties of conscripted students as well as of all draftees. Calling for federal aid to education, the resolution at the same time affirms the necessity of "preserving in classroom and laboratory the spirit of free inquiry and scientific learning unhampered by military regulation or control."

Following an inspiring address delivered by Harry F. Ward, of the Union Theological Seminary, on religion and the search for truth, this morning, the conference heard reports of the various panel discussions held yesterday.

Miss Laura Abrams reported "How free is the college press?" It was the opinion of that panel that attacks on the liberties of the student body find acute expression in moves to discipline and censure college newspapers. The panel recommended establishment by the conference of a committee of college press and proposed a spirited declaration on the freedom of college press which will be circulated in school papers throughout the land.

APR 1 1941

Elaine Powell, reporting for the Bill of Rights panel, called for cooperation of all student organizations and faculty members to drive back the Rapp-Coudert witch-hunters and similar committees elsewhere. She described smear campaigns of these legislative committees as a technique used to bring about budget cuts and stifle the voice of peace which resounds on the American campus today.

ON STUDENT CONSCRIPTS

Lawrence Locke presented a comprehensive program to defend welfare conscripts in his report for the "students in uniform" panel. The panel recommended that the conference shall not request blanket deferment of all students but merely allow students who have started an academic year to finish that year of study.

While suggesting that students shall not be set off as a privileged group, the panel did recommend that all medical students be deferred and favored the passage of the Murray Bill, which would permit such deferment and would place medical men in their chosen professions.

In concluding his report, Mr. Locke said that the best defense of rights of conscripts was to fight against any effort to send another American Expeditionary Force abroad.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

NATIONAL CONGRESS FOR DEMOCRACY IN EDUCATION

Harvard School Parley Spurs Student Strike

APR 2 1941

Form Permanent Council to Defend Education; Red-Baiting Attacks Rejected; Professors Join in Assailing Blows at School

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., April 1.—Nationwide action to implement its program of defense of American education on the day of the annual student peace strike April 23, was voted by the National Conference for Democracy in Education held at Harvard University.

The conference voted to establish a permanent organization uniting the American student body in a National Council for Democracy in Education. A National Council of 30 and the following officers were elected:

APR 2 1941

Chairman, Thomas Parry, Harvard University, American Medical Students Association; vice-chairmen, Alice Stevens, Berea College, YWCA and National Intercollegiate Christian Council; Len Detweiler, Hartford Seminary, National Intercollegiate Christian Council; Lawrence Sperber, Harvard University, National Council of Law Student; Richard Bancroft, Howard University, chairman of American Student Union; secretary-treasurer, Bella Savitsky, Hunter College, president Student Council.

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla

NEW YORK COUNCILMAN IS SECOND HITLER SAYS YOUTH PRESENT AT WASHINGTON YOUTH CONFRENCE

Convention Delegates Say Those Called to Offer Program Had No Constructive Idea Regarding Future

ALL SPEAKERS PROVED TO BE NEGATIVE QUANTITIES

By ALVIN E. WHITE

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Pilgrims in the political desert thought they saw a ray of hope on the horizon last week when the Rev. Adam Clayton Powell, young pastor of the mighty Abyssinian Baptist church, broke through hitherto almost unsurmountable obstacles to win an election in Tammany-controlled Harlem. They thought they saw the dawn of an era which would give Harlem its first Negro congressman, but now fear that all they saw was what other thirsty travelers in other deserts see, a mirage.

Looking back over the situation, it is an unhealthy picture presented. Thirteen million leaderless people, clamoring for a leader and not one worthy of the toga rising out of the "new crop" of Negroes.

At the recent Negro Youth conference, your correspondent thought the millenium had arrived. There one the program and on the same platform sat Lester Granger, tried and true war horse; Earl B. Dickerson, brilliant Chicago attorney whose feats in his hometown had won him fame and who is now riding to new heights on the President's Fair Employment Practices committee; and Rev. Powell, scion of a distinguished ministerial family of Harlem, Colgate graduate, independent of any political need, newly-elected member of the tough New York City council, and in session, named minority leader of that group. (N. B. The former minority leader, Joseph Baldwin is now Congressman Baldwin). What an array of talent for the youth of the nation to observe. Here were wise men, sages who had achieved. Granger, the irreconcilable, who left the Urban League because he was out of line; who led the fight at the Social Workers convention in Atlantic City because the social workers agreed to meet in New Orleans where freedom of speech and action was not tolerated by folks unless they were of the Caucasian race; Granger who has traveled from coast to coast and spread an almost unbelievable doctrine of race efforts and opportunity, who saw little hope in the way things were going for Negroes or any other youth; there was Dickerson, trigged-minded, alert, fresh from an appearance before the supreme court where the reversed former Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes listened intently to his arguments on residential segregation and ruled against the whites who had battled for years to deprive Negroes of their rights.

Could any more potent leadership be asked?

Granger was the stablizing influence; Dickerson, the hope of the young Negro in the virulent middle west; Powell, the hope of the often-misled and misguided and scorned Harlemite. Two sterling opportunities for measuring congressional timbre. What happened? What queer reasoning on the part of Powell led him to evade the opportunity before him when he could have solidified himself with the most potent force in America, a clear-thinking, earnest group of white and colored youngsters?

Tired of promises, weary of made-work, leary of present conditions here was the group, tailor made ready to support any constructive man who could offer some semblance of leadership—eager, willing and ready to accept something to work on. And what did they get?

As one keen young man said after the conference when seated at a round table discussion of what transpired: "Powell is a liberal, he is a conservative, he is everything rolled into one—that cannot be."

Youth is looking for leadership. It knows what it wants, but it can't find it. The crop which should have stood out in bold relief last week, when the golden opportunity beckoned, flopped miserably.

Dickerson did the best he could. Dickerson logically was the man, but we need more Dickersons, provided they can be curbed and turned in the right direction—and the right direction surely is not the direction in which our former so-called leaders marched.

Perhaps had not Mr. Dickerson's speech been approved before he delivered it, he too would have gone off on a tangent entirely foreign to the occasion.

The young woman who put her finger on the situation was not amiss when she said after Mr. Powell had finished his impassioned denunciation of other leaders and praise for his own accomplishments:

"Of such stuff are dictators made!"

What would an old timer have done with 1200 eager youngsters from all parts of the country, hungry for leadership? What would an old-timer have done with this opportunity?

Political observers are still groping in the desert. They grabbed, but they grabbed a mirage. Youth of America is ready—it is willing, it needs leadership. They haven't got it.

Washington, D. C. Post
November 17, 1941

Negro Youth Session Backs Foreign Policy

The National Conference of Negro Youth closed an initial three-day meeting yesterday by passing resolutions indorsing President Roosevelt's foreign policy without reservation and turning down a proposal to affiliate with white groups in pushing an "anti-Hitler crusade."

The conference, held at Metropolitan Baptist Church, 1225 R Street Northwest, was attended by 1200 delegates from Negro youth organizations. Church, college, civic and union organizations from 40 states were represented.

Miss Winifred Norman, chairman of the conference, told delegates the best way to save democracy and keep the Negro's social gains in America was to first defeat Hitler abroad.

"Join in This Crusade"

"Tell every Negro to join in this crusade," she said. "We support the President's foreign policy without reservation because there are no Wheelers or Lindberghs among us."

The conference was organized as a permanent body with tentative plans made to set up a national organization. A proposal from the floor that close affiliation be maintained with white youth groups was voted down by an overwhelming majority with speakers asserting that the group should maintain an independent organization which would cooperate with other youth organizations when such cooperation seemed mutually beneficial.

Resolutions were passed opposing discrimination against the Negro in defense industry, training for defense work, or in the armed forces. Abolition of the poll tax was urged.

National Menace

A "creed" officially adopted by the conference stated that race prejudice "is a major national menace, a comfort to the avowed enemy of those ideals our Nation is pledged to defend."

"We cannot win security while Hitler's legions threaten to embrace the globe with their system of plunder, ruin, and the subjection of minority peoples," it stated.

Permanent national officers elected are: Winifred Norman, Flushing, chairman; Roberta Garnett, Detroit, vice chairman; Sherman Smith, West Virginia State College, vice chairman; Cornella Jamerson, Chicago, secretary; Rev. Samuel Williams, assistant pastor, Vermont Avenue Baptist Church, Washington, treasurer.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

POWELL VERSUS GRANGER

The Adam Powell-Lester Granger disagreement expressed before the National Youth Conference in Washington last week is fundamental.

As we understand it, Mr. Powell stands for independent colored organizations collaborating with white organizations on an equal basis.

Mr. Granger, on the other hand, is quoted as favoring a diffusion of the colored group among existing white groups.

NOV 29 1941

For the Irish, the Jew and many another foreig element, the quickest way to Americanization has beei intermarriage and the melting pot.

For us, the melting pot process is far slower, and we are inclined to agree with Adam Powell that in the main we shall have to develop our own leadership and program in order "to sell ourselves in the best market."

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

D.C. Youth Confab Thrown In Uproar By Bitter Attack

NOV 22 1941

41

By ALVIN E. WHITE

WASHINGTON—(ANP) — The Rev. Adam Powell, newly elected member of New York's City Council and minority leader in the same group, made a bid for national recognition here Friday night speaking at the public mass meeting of the National Conference of Negro Youth at the Metropolitan Baptist Church, castigating a nationally known organization and calling a previous speaker a "fifth columnist" to the Negro race.

Although Rev. Powell did not mention either the speaker or his organization by name, it was generally understood that his references were directed to Lester Granger, acting secretary of the National Urban League himself, a nationally known figure, and the organization he represented.

NOV 22 1941

Mr. Granger had been the first speaker on a rather lengthy program and briefly told the conference that it would serve no good purpose unless the message of the conference was taken back to the average young Negro of today. And he stated that the delegates to the conference did not represent the average Negro youth of today for the average Negro youth was the one who could not attend these conferences, but stayed home because of lack of funds and clothes to attend such a meeting.

He further pointed out that the entire world is in a muddled state and it behooved no groups to laugh at the predicament other groups found themselves in because of their particular beliefs.

NOV 22 1941

FUTURE NOT HOPEFUL

Mr. Granger indicated the future facing Negroes was not very hopeful and that is is possible that out of the present conflict, there would be intensification of hate movements, possibly singling out the Negro for special persecution. His suggestions were for unification of purpose to meet the growing problems which would occur in a highly mechanized world growing out of the latest war.

"There is no racial formula for the solution of the national problems," he said, "but we pledge the support of persons of my age group to help the Negro out of the situation he finds himself in today."

Earl Dickerson, alderman from Chicago and member of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, followed Mr. Granger and spoke at length on the part the Negro is playing in the world today, emphasizing national defense.

"Unfortunately there are some Americans in every sphere of the economic, political and cultural life of this country who place the racial and religious prejudices that are relics of bygone days and outmoded order before the welfare of the nation," said Mr. Dickerson. "They would shut Negro youth out of the struggle for freedom ending its long pursuit of life, liberty and happiness. Some of these people have been blinded by color bars; some corrupted by petty privileges, some are extracting huge profits from your oppression. These few have no little power.

PROPAGANDA EFFECTIVE

"They own the press and radio; control theaters and schools; influence the moral tone of many churches, dominate some of the basic industries and control many of the leading trade unions. Through the avenues of propaganda, now more active than ever, they seek to spread this virus of race hatred at that moment when national unity is most imperative. You must counteract this un-American and vicious propaganda."

Mr. Dickerson continued to point out the achievements of Negroes in the United States and the faults of the Hitler regime.

"Our country is at war," he declared solemnly. "I must tell you that this is our war—the war of Negro America. In Hitler's Germany, this meeting could never be held. In Hitler's Germany, our schools and colleges, our businesses and professions, would vanish. Our press would be silenced and we would be reduced to the status of slaves."

The speaker declared that the FEPC is winning a major war victory and cited things the committee has effected. He blasted discrimination and urged national unity, the unity of Negro youth, the unity of American youth, saying it is a trap for the enemies' vicious practices.

The crowded house strained and moved anxiously in its seat as the chairman introduced the next speaker, the Rev Adam Powell. All eyes were on the tall, handsome minister, as he made his way to the center of the platform and every ear bent to catch his every word. Distinguished in appearance, looking far more like a white man than a Negro, Rev. Powell began in his best pulpit manner.

NOV 22 1941

RECEIVES OVATION

Long after the speaker had taken his seat and bowed his head in silent prayer as is his custom after a public appearance, the cheering grew into an ovation. The young minister, flushed with his recent political successes in Harlem, rose and asked the Virginia State A-Capella choir, which had furnished the music, to sing "I've Heard of a City Called Heaven," adding the final dramatic touch to the occasion.

The Rev. Mr. Powell prefaced his remarks with a brief statement concerning the recent elections in New York which he was fortunate enough to win and praised several other enterprises with which he had been identified.

He then went into a tirade against Mr. Granger who had to leave the conference as soon as he had finished speaking to get back to New York.

Among other things in his discussion, Mr. Powell declared:

"In the middle is the Negro tricked by modernized Uncle Toms posing as leaders of the Negro people. Enemies are on our right, enemies on our left and chaos in our own ranks. Instead of laying down our lives for democracy, we should demand some democracy to fight for. There is no reason why the Negro should not rise up and give leadership to the world. We must recognize the fact that in the crisis of the world is the Negro's opportunity. Today, we make tomorrow's world the world we dream of or today we make it a world of discrimination, lynching, hypocrisy."

CALLS LEAGUE A PUPPET

Calling by inference the Urban League, a "puppet in the hands of people who impose upon the Negro a class system," Mr. Powell declared it a burden and its leaders fifth columnists.

"It is the fifth columnist of the Negro race and we shall purge it. There is no hope as long as we are led by people of that character."

Further, Mr. Powell stated, "When a man takes a sum of money from the piper he has to dance the tune the piper plays."

He closed his fiery address by calling upon the people to make their demands and to assert themselves, saying the future of the Negro lies with the people themselves and not the "big shots, but the ragged people the hungry people."

Saturday's sessions were no less exciting.

Presided over by Jeanetta Welch of the AKA Non Partisan council, addresses were made by Miss Winfred Norman, national chairman and several other persons who joined in the "plenary session" the theme of which was "Negro Youth Versus Hitler."

DIVISION OF OPINION

There was a division of opinion and thought as various extemporaneous speeches were made by representatives of several organizations. Some were for stamping out Hitlerism in the United States before attempting to stamp out Hitlerism abroad. Petitions were asked to be sent the President for an extension of the executive order to cover the air forces both in the army and navy and for enlisted men in the navy and marine corps.

A demand that Negro history be taught in the grade schools was advocated by another; the forceful method of embarrassing the government, such as demonstrations and parades, came from another source; abolition of the poll tax, with especial emphasis on senators from certain states, came in for a going over; the employes of the Supreme Liberty Life Insurance company of Chicago, through a representative, said they were being subjected to extreme intimidation and asked for a resolution on this matter, but the plea which brought the house down and got ringing salvos of applause, was the demand for the release of Earl Browder, the Communist leader, from the penitentiary where he is confined on a charge of falsifying a passport.

NOV 22 1941

This plea, made by a delegate, did much to discredit the efforts of many leaders to identify the youth council separately and distinctly from the Communist party. An intense effort in this direction had been made earlier in the course of the evening on Friday when a collection was raised to defray the expenses of certain groups, unable to pay their own way.

"We could have been subsidized," the speaker said, "but we wanted to be free from any domination or association with any other group."

The Saturday session was possibly the liveliest of them all. Panel discussions were held in the conference rooms of the church, but at a late hour no reports had been rendered.

——A Colored Judge——

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

RACE SUPPORT GIVES COURAGE TO PRESIDENT

Nation's Leader Expresses His Appreciation To Negro Congress

DEC 27 1941

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Appreciation of the wholehearted, active support which the National Negro Congress—in the name of the Negro people—has pledged to the President in building a solid national unity for the defense of our country against the Hitler-dominated Axis powers, was expressed by the nation's chief executive in a letter to Max Yergan, president of the organization, and made public here Friday.

The President made known his deep feeling through his secretary, Mavin H. McIntyre. The letter was a reply to a telegram sent to President Roosevelt last week by the Negro Congress leader, which said in part: "We know that we express the unshakable determination of the Negro people to give everything we have to our nation to the end that our country will triumph over all its enemies." The text of the President's letter follows:

"Permit me, in the President's name, to thank you and the members of your Congress for your telegram. The pledges of patriotic support which have been received from the many, many loyal citizens in all parts of the country have given the President strength and courage to carry out the will of the American people.

DEC 27 1941

"For the splendid assurance conveyed in uor message he is more appreciative than he can say."

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Plan Youth Discussions

OCT 16 1941

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Plans for breaking down the barriers that keep two and a half million Negro youth from fully participating in the industrial, civilian and military defense of America, will be worked out at the National Conference on Negro Youth to be held in the Nation's capital November 14-16. Shown above are members of the Washington Initiating Committee.

Seated from left to right: Charlotte Payne, Metropolitan Baptist Church; Thelma Dale, Washington Negro Youth Federation, chairman of the local initiating committee; C. Reginald Audrick, American Law Studen's Association; Marie Richardson, women's auxiliary of the United Transport Service Employees Wnion (Red Caps), acting secretary of the committee.

Standing, left to right: Henry Thomas, secretary, local 30, United Construction Workers Organizing Committee (CIO); Mrs. Jewell Mazique, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; William Tymous, United Federal Workers of America (CIO); Otero Tymous Metropolitan Baptist Church.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

SET TO FIGHT BIAS IN ARMS BRANCHES, USO

Mrs. Bethune Expresses Interest In Aims Of Conference

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Youth from all over the country are expected to meet here on November 14, 15, and 16 to discuss various problems affecting them, particularly that of discriminatio in the armed forces of the nation and the conditions existing in the United States organization.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, director in the National Youth Administration, in a meeting recently with the Washington Planning committee for the conference, expressed her interest in the proposed assembly and extended an invitation for them to return and see her

This conference has gained much momentum and such persons as Duke Ellington, renowned band leader; Rev. E. C Smith, pastor of the huge Metropolitan Baptist church here, and others have endorsed it and offered their aid

W. C. Handy, famous composer and music publisher of New York, in adding his words of encouragement stated: "I believe that there is nothing finer than a song and we have the song that the youth shall be singing. It is "We Are Americans, Too."

Other persons who have endorsed the conference have expressed the sentiment that the Government would be much more powerful in its war efforts were all of the potential strength of a united American people fully used

Today, they emphasize, when more than ever before this unity is needed to crush the Hitler monster, the nation finds itself divided by race hatred created by the would be fascist dictators.

The conference has for its main objective the impressing upon youth the importance of uniting on a national scale to solve the problems facing youth in general.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Conference In Washington Nov. 14-16

1,000 Delegates Expected For 3-Day Meeting

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt will be keynote speaker at the Sunday afternoon meeting of the closing session of the National Conference of Negro Youth which will be held here November 14-16, it was announced by Miss Marie Richardson, chairman of the conference arrangements committee.

The announcement was made following a conference at the White House between the First Lady and Miss Jessie Scott, girl's work secretary of the Ashland Place YWCA, Brooklyn, New York. Miss Scott is program secretary of the Conference.

According to Miss Richardson, Mrs. Roosevelt will fly back from New York City on Sunday, November 16, in order to speak at the meeting in the afternoon. The theme of the Conference will be "Negro Youth and National Defense." "More than one thousand delegates, representing nearly four-million Negro youth, from forty-two states, are expected to attend the meeting," Miss Richardson said

All sessions of the conference will be held at the Metropolitan Baptist Church, 1225 R Street, Northwest.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Unite, Rule, Councilman Tells Youth

By LULA JONES GARRETT

WASHINGTON

Answering the plea of Earl B. Dickerson, Chicago lawyer, that they be prepared to fight for, and if need be, die for democracy, the Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr., told delegates to the National Conference of Youth that they had better first demand some democracy to fight for.

The Rev. Mr. Powell, newly elected New York City councilman, was the main speaker on the opening program of a three-day sesion, beginning Friday, which was attended by 1200 young people from all sections of the country representing organizations that ranged from Greek letter societies to labor unions, and from church clubs to NAACP groups.

Metropolitan Baptist Church, where the sessions were held, was packed on Friday with standing room at a premium, and loud speakers were used to carry the message to those unable to get into the building.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negroes to Plan for Greater Defense Role

OCT 20 1941

Washington Parley Will Spur Fuller Participation in Anti-Hitler Drive

OCT 20 1941

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—A conference to mobilize Negro citizens for more effective participation in national defense and for the defeat of Hitler has been called by leading Negroes here.

More than fifty persons representing every phase of Negro life in this city have issued a call for the conference to be held Sunday, Oct. 26, at Columbia Elks Lodge, No. 85.

Among the sponsors are the Rev. William A. Jernagin, president of the National Baptist Convention; J. Finley Wilson, National Grand Exalted Ruler of the Elks; Robert C. Weaver, Race Relations Advisor to the CPM; Major Campbell Johnson, Selective Service aide; Judge Hastie, civilian aide to the Secretary of War; Dr. C. N. Marshall, president of the N.A.A.C.P., George Goodman, president of the Urban League; Garnett Wilkinson, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; John P. Davis; Professor Doxey Wilkerson and others.

Warning that "our nation is imperilled by the daily increasing danger of a Hitler victory abroad," the conference call states that "it is high time that we mobilized all of our organizational forces and every segment of the Negro population for all-out action for the defense of democracy and the defeat of Fascism."

The conference sponsors also call for the extension of Negro rights "to aid in building up the urgently needed maximum industrial production and governmental efficiency for the defense program."

Negro Youth Leaders who are helping chart the forthcoming Washington Negro Youth Convention to sweep away all barriers preventing full contributions of the Negro people to the all-out defense program against Hitlerism. Seated, left to right: Charlotte Payne, Metropolitan Baptist Church; Thelma Dale, Washington Negro Youth Federation, chairman of the local initiating committee; C. Reginald Audrick, American Law Students Assn.; Marie Richardson, women's auxiliary of the United Transport Service Employment Union. Standing, left to right: Henry Thomas, secretary, Local 30, CIO United Construction Workers; Mrs. Jewell Mazique, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; William Tymone, CIO, Federal Workers, and Otero Tymous, Metropolitan Baptist Church.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Marylar

Gets First Lady's Okay

NOV 1 1941

NOV 1 1941

Miss Jessie Scott, secretary of girls' work at the Ashland Place YWCA, Brooklyn, N.Y., who this week conferred with Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt concerning the National Conference of Negro Youth which is to be held in Washington November 14-16.

National Conference of Negro Youth

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

"Negro Youth Must Shake Us Out of Our Apathy! This Is Our War", Says Dickerson.

NOV 27 1941

Washington, D. CC.—A ringing call to Negro youth to "shake Negro America out of its complaceny", and stand up and do battle against Hitler and Hitlerism, was issued here today by Earl B. Dickerson, Chicago Alderman, and member of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices.

Dickerson made the statement in response to an invitation to speak at the first national conference of Negro youth held here November 14-16 at the Metropolitan Baptist Church on R Street, Northwest.

The conference drew more than 900 delegates from nearly a score of states and the District of Columbia to the Nation's capital to discuss unity of action around the theme. "Negro Youth Face the National Crisis".

Praising the conference leaders for their far-sighted action in calling the conference, Dickerson said:

"In calling this meeting at such a decisive hour in world history, you have performed a strategic stroke. Clarity, more clarity, and still more clarity on the character of this war, and the role that Negro youth must play in the battle to save the world, including ourselves, from utter barbarism, is of vital importance".

As in integral part of America our fate is the fate of America, Dickerson said, and that is why this war "is our war".

NOV 27 1941

"It is our war no less than was the glorious struggle led by the immortal Lincoln in 1860", he declared. "If Hitler is victorious all the gains we as a people have made will have been lost. Because, if Hitler wins, we wil be cast into a position worse thar the slavery of our forefathers".

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

NOTED AUTHOR LAUDS HANDY, BLUES 'FATHER'

Richard Wright Says Such A Triumph Impossible Under Hitler Regime

SEP 29 1941

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The full essence of what a Hitler victory would mean to the development of American Negro culture was given dramatic example here last week by Richard Wright, noted author, when he spoke before 1,200 people at Dunbar high school during the cultural festival of the National Conference of Negro Youth, which met here for three days last week.

Paying tribute to W. C. Handy, famous author of the "St. Louis Blues," whose birthday the festival celebrated, Wright said:

"Mr. Handy has given Negro folk culture voice, beauty and strength and he has given it to the people. There are few nations left in this world where such a man can be honored. Hitler has seen to it that the continent of Europe cannot pay such a tribute. Handy could not take up his horn there."

Urging Negro youth to give full support to our Government's national defense effort, Wright added: "We can hope when this war is won that the Negro's culture will rest upon a more secure basis, and that his place will be a more privileged one."

Mr. Handy, although nearly blind, played his famous blues song on the trumpet, and brought the audience to its feet when he exclaimed: "I can't see you but I can feel your spirit."

SEP 29 1941

The youth conference closed Sunday, Nov. 16, after agreeing on a nation-wide action program for uniting Negro youth in support of the President's foreign policy and the government's national defense effort to bring military defeat to Hitler and Hitlerism.

The action program outlined the following steps to be taken for achieving defense unity: To give complete support to the Civilian Defense program, to assume responsibility for increasing production on our own jobs, to learn necessary skills, to achieve physical fitness, to educate ourselves for today's needs, to provide services for the young people in the armed forces and in defense industrial areas, to give support to the investigation of the Fair Employment Practices Committee and work for legal power to enforce the findings of this committee.

Also, to take part in Civilian Defense programs, to contribute to war reliefs, to save for defense, to conserve resources and eliminate waste, to insure the participation of youth of all ages, races, and faiths in the defense program.

"We must act," the program report declared, "with the full realization that to make the defense of America the fulcrum of all activity is not to ignore the problems we, as Negroes face at home. On the contrary it is the only way to safeguard and extend our rights."

The conference named a continuations committee of 38 representatives from a broad cross-section of organizations throughout the country, to give direction to the program as it is carried out in various communities.

Officers of the committee named by the conference are: honorary chairman, Miss Dorothy Height, secretary, Phyllis Wheatley Y.W.C.A., Washington, D. C.; chairman, Miss Winifred Norman, representative of Rho chapter, Delta Sigma Theta sorority, Flushing, N. Y.; vice chairman, Miss Roberta Garnett, Detroit, N.A.A.C.P. Youth council and Sherman Smith, president, West Virginia State college youth council; secretary, Miss Cornella Jameson, Chicago Pilgrim Youth federation; and treasurer, Rev. Samuel Williams, assistant pastor, Vermont Avenue Baptist church, Washington, D. C.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

EARL B. DICKERSON TO ADDRESS YOUTH IN NATIONAL MEET

NOV 8 1941

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Nov. 6 — The arrangements for the National Conference of Negro Youth are now complete, Miss Jessie Scott of Brooklyn, New York, chairman of the program committee, announced today. The conference program feature a variety of speakers from government circles and from civic and artistic fields and will hold its sessions in Washington, D. C., the week-end of November 14-16.

Attorney Earl B. Dickerson, Chicago City Council legislator, and now a member of the recently appointed Fair Employment Practices Board, will give the conference a picture of the status of Negroes in defense industries. Attorney Dickerson will address the conference just after his return from the West Coast where some of the first cases involving discrimination against Negroes in industry are being handled by his board.

Also schedule to appear are Dr. Channing Tobias, veteran YMCA leader and one who is an authority on welfare among Negro soldiers and selectees. The conference will also observe the 68th birthday of W. C. Handy, "Father of the Blues" with a program in his honor, November 15. Among the artists paying tribute to the famous musician will be Richard Wright, the prize-winning novelist.

Miss Winifred Norman, chairman of the Initiating Committee for the conference, has stated that already some 850 delegates have been registered for the conference, from 200 youth clubs throughout 21 states. The conference theme, "Negro Youth Defends Democracy", will be carried out in panels and discussion centered around the types of action youth can take to contribute to the maintenance of democracy in the world and to assure Negro youth an equal share in the defense program of the administration

NOV 8 1941

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Rise Against Hitler, Negro Youth Told as Parley Nears

Chicago Alderman Hail November 14 to 16 Capital Talks

Earl B. Dickerson, member of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee and Negro alderman of Chicago, yesterday issued a call to Negro youth of the United States to rise up in the worldwide struggle against Hitler and Hitlerism. His statement was made in accepting an invitation to address the National Conference of Negro Youth in Washington, beginning this Sunday.

Characterizing the present war as the Negro's own, Dickerson declared he hoped the conference will "shake Negro America out of its complacency."

"In calling this meeting at such a decisive hour in world history, you have performed a strategic stroke," Mr. Dickerson's acceptance statement said. "Clarity, more clarity, and still more clarity on the character of this war and the role that Negro youth must play in the battle to save the world, including ourselves, from utter barbarism, is of vital importance."

He said the conference correctly makes the war its central note, for it is "the most vital issue before mankind." This is "our war no less than was the glorious struggle led by the immortal Lincoln in 1860," because "if Hitler is victorious all the gains we as a people have made will have been lost" and "because, if Hitler wins, we will be cast into a position worse than the slavery of our forefathers."

Mr. Dickerson's statement continued:

"Your conference will deal not alone with the smashing of Hitler but with the destruction of Hitlerism, as well. There can be no national unity or national defense without a battle against every vestige of Hitlerism here at home. In our battle against Hitlerism at home, we must not compromise on the mistreatment of Negro soldiers in camp, such as Fort Bragg. We must not let up in our fight against the poll tax, job discrimination and [illegible] evils of fascist doctrines at home."

"You must shake Negro America out of its complacency," Mr. Dickerson told the conference. "You must arouse black youth to a desire for heroic deeds. This is a heroic age. It contains the seeds of our victory."

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

The Negro People Express Their Views

• Insidious appeals by the America First Committee to the Negro people have been sternly rebuked by developments of the last few days.

Two "Smash Hitler" conferences—involving the widest representation of the Negro people and their white progressive supporters—were held in Chicago and Washington. One of the main participants in the former was Earl Dickerson, prominent Negro leader and member of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee; while in Washington, one of the dynamic figures was Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Negro leader and official of the National Youth Administration. Undoubtedly, Mrs. Bethune expressed the sentiment of Negro Americans when she stated:

"An America under direct Hitler dominance would mean our return to slavery, would mean the loss of what gains we have made, would mean closing tightly shut the now partly opened doors that lead into the lighted halls of freedom and opportunity."

The Negro people, as other Americans, are recognizing more clearly every day that Hitler is the spearhead of the forces of reaction and barbarism — particularly, against minority groups — and must be destroyed through the armed might of the Soviet Union, Britain and America.

Today the appeasers raise the just grievances of the Negro people, not to eliminate them, but to use them against national unity, against the President's foreign policy—and therefore against the Negro people themselves.

The failure to end the Hitlerite practices against the Negro people, the Jewish population and other minorities gives ammunition to the appeasers to divide the nation. Resolute steps should be taken by the national government to make real the President's anti-Jim Crow orders and to enforce the constitutional rights of the Negro people in all walks of life.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

Impressions Of The National Negro Youth Congress In D. C.

(This article is written by Richard Parrish, field organizer for the Metropolitan Federation of Negro Student Organizations who attended the National Negro Youth Conference in Washington, D. C., on November 14, 15, 16, 1941.)

The invasion of the Soviet Union a few months ago by Germany gave the Communist Party through out the world a tremendous incentive to unite all peoples all countries against Hitler. It is not remarkable, therefore, that the much discussed National Negro Youth Conference, the latest front organization for all fashionable Negro Communists adopted the theme, "SMASH HITLER" before the conference was called. Under this slogan it attracted hundreds of innocents to a righteous convocation in undemocratic Washington, D. C., on the fair-weathered weekend of November 15, 1941.

Let there be no mistake about this. The National Negro Youth Conference was a grand show. A thousand young folk congregated in three churches and a high school on various occasions to hear outstanding Negro clergymen, statesmen, social workers and artists. The dignitaries included such names as Rev. A. Powell, Rev. R. W. Brooks, Rev. E. C. Smith, Lester Granger, Earl B. Dickerson, Dorothy Height, and Richard Wright. The opening session and the cultural program drew crowds of 1500 each.

So it was in official Washington in an officious manner that the group bellowed forth that the greatest enemy of the Negro people Hitler and that his defeat is a necessary condition for the building of democracy here. One is not surprised to learn that the program of Negro youth was dedicated to the defeat of Hitler here and abroad. The conference reports emphasized the necessity of our wholeheartedly supporting the foreign policy of our government and integrating ourselves into the National Defense program.

This foreign policy naturally satisfies Communists and invertebrate war mongers. But it is less understandable to the average young Negro who like most young Americans do not want war. Nor is it understandable to the millions of Negroes, Indians and Chinese throughout the world now suffering under the gory heel of imperialist Britain and the United States. I wonder what Mehru and the 17,000 other Indian Nationalists who at this minute are in jail for having the audacity to ask for immediate national liberation of India as the price of supporting Britain in the war, will say when they hear that Negro youth has lined up with the people that are enslaving them? Fortunately, however, the National Conference of Negro Youth does not speak for all Negro youth. There is a chance therefore for some, honest and liberal thought on vital questions facing Negro youth today if we can but organize our youth into groups for such a purpose and encourage them to be more articulate in public.

Negro youth has much to gain by America staying out of this struggle for the control of markets and raw materials. If the Negro is to conquer his poverty, ill health, lack of education; if he is to gain political and manhood rights he will prefer his country at peace so that he can educate and agitate for such improvements..

If, on the other hand, his country is at war he will have little opportunity to extend or even hold on to what little we have. Negro youth therefore has a stake in keeping America at peace. Moreover Negro youth has a responsibility to the American people and all people of the world. That responsibility to help America build democracy here and throughout the Western hemisphere. In this way we will demonstrate that democracy can work and thereby create an example for the war stricken countries to follow. Besides this, we will give hope to all oppressed people throughout the world and be in a position to help them when they are ready to settle with their masters.

41-1941

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF NEGRO YOUTH

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Youth To Mobilize All-Out Aid For Defense

Nov. 14 Capital Parley to Seek End of Bars Impeding Efforts

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 20. — When one thousand representatives of Negro youth organizations throughout the country meet in the Nation's Capital November 14, they will work out a program for overcoming the obstacles that prevent two and a half million Negro young people from exercising their full strength in the industrial, civilian, and military defense of the country.

This is the perspective outlined by officials of the National Conference of Negro Youth, which will meet in Washington for a three-day session, at the Metropolitan Baptist Church, 1225 R St., N. W.

"Negro Youth Defend Democracy," will be the theme of the conference, according to Miss Winifred Norman, of New York, chairman of the National Initiating Committee.

Dr. Mary Cleod Bethune, director of the Office of Negro Affairs in the National Youth Administration, described the conference as timely, pertinent and necessary.

"A militant youth," she said, "able to keep its feet on the ground, but its head high and its eyes clear, will be an asset to America as our country gears itself to the rapid tempo required for the defense of democracy."

A special section of the conference will be devoted to the cultural contribution of Negroes to America. Noted musical artists including Paul Robeson, W. C. Handy and Duke Ellington, are scheduled to be heard.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Educator Joins Sponsors of Negro Youth Conference

President of Tuskegee Endorses Parley To Be Held November 14

The National Conference of Negro Youth this week received the endorsement of Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, adding another prominent educator and leader to the list of outstanding sponsors of the nation-wide youth gathering in Washington, D. C., the week-end of Nov. 14-16, the New York headquarters is at 2374 Seventh Ave.

Dr. Patterson in announcing his support for the Conference, which has been called by leaders of youth clubs throughout the nation, urged all interested youth to take advantage of the Conference to meet and to "set in motion those forces which will make for the betterment of the race and the nation in these strenuous times."

The arrangements for the National Conference of Negro Youth are now complete, Miss Jessie Scott of Brooklyn, chairman of the Program Committee, announced yesterday. The Conference program features a variety of speakers from Government circles and from civic and artistic fields.

Attorney Earl B. Dickerson, Chicago City Council legislator, and now a member of the recently appointed Fair Employment Practices Board, will speak on the status of Negroes in defense industries.

Also scheduled to appear are Dr. Channing Tobias, veteran YMCA leader and an authority on welfare among Negro soldiers and selectees. The Conference will also observe the 68th birthday of W. C. Handy, "Father of the Blues," with a program in his honor on Nov. 15.

Among the artists paying tribute to the famous musician will be Richard Wright, the prize-winning novelist.

Miss Winifred Norman, chairman of the Initiating Committee for the Conference, has stated that already some 850 delegates have been registered for the Conference from 200 youth clubs throughout 21 states.

The Conference theme, "Negro Youth Defends Democracy," will be carried out in panels and discussion centered around the types of action youth can take to contribute to the maintenance of democracy in the world and to assure Negro youth a equal share in the defense program of the Administration.

Among the adult sponsors of the Conference are Dr. Dorothy Boulding Ferobee of the AKA Sorority, Bishop W. J. Walls of the AME Zion Church, Dr. Herbert Marshall, Jr., of the Washington, D. C. NAACP, Mr. Revels Cayton of the San Francisco Industrial Union Council, President John N. Ellison of Virginia State College, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois of Atlanta University, and others.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

National Conference Of Youths Endorsed By Dr. F. D. Patterson

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Miss Winifred Norman, chairman of the Initiating Committee for the Conference, has stated that already some 850 delegates have been registered for the Conference, from 200 youth clubs throughout twenty one states. The Conference theme, 'Negro Youth Defends Democracy,' will be carried out in panels and discussion centered around the types of action youth can take to contribute to the maintenance of democracy in the world and to assure Negro youth a equal share in the defense program of the Administration.

Among the adult sponsors of the Conference are Dr. Dorothy Boulding Ferebee of the AKA Sorority, Bishop W. J. Walls, of the AME Zion Church, Dr. Herbert Marshall, Jr., of the Washington D. C. NAACP, Revels Cayton, of the San Francisco Industrial Union Council, President John M. Ellison, of Virginia State College, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois of Atlanta University, and others. Mrs. Mary McCleod Bethune of the National Youth Administration announced her interest in the Conference.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Richard Wright To Tell Of Hitler's Threat To America

WASHINGTON, D. C. —(SNS)— Richard Wright, whose new pictoral book, "Twelve Million Black Voices," has just been published, will speak on "The Significance of a Hitler Victory to Culture," at the National Conference of Negro Youth which takes place here November 14-16.

The famous author, who won the 1940 Spingarn Gold Medal for his book, "Native Son," will be the keynote speaker at the cultural festival, a highlight of the conference. Joshua White, the Broadway Guitar-playing ballad singer; and W. C. Handy, long famous as the father of the blues, will also appear on the program with Wright.

The festival will take place at the Metropolitan Baptist Church, 1225 R. Street. Northwest, Saturday evening, November 15, where all meetings of the conference session except the religious youth convocation, will be held.

Other speakers at the conference will include Dr. Channing Tobias, member of the President's National Advisory Committee on Selective Service; Miss Jeanetta Welch, director of the Alpha Kappa sorority's Non-Partisan Council on public affairs; Miss Jane Siever, national youth director in the Office of Civilian Defense. and Miss Winifred Norman, national chairman of the conference's initiating committee

Dickerson made the statement in response to an invitation to speak at the first national conference of Negro youth held here Nov. 14 to 16 at the Metropolitan Baptist church.

The conference drew more than 900 delegates from nearly a score of states and the District of Columbia to the Nation's capital to discuss unity of action around the theme, "Negro Youth Face the National Crisis."

The Chicago alderman and Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr., recently elected to the City Council of New York, were among the prominent speakers to address the opening meeting of the conference.

Other speakers included Miss Dorothy Height, secretary of the Phyllis Wheatley Y.W.C.A. in Washington; Dr. C. Herbert Marshall of the D. C. Branch, N.A.A.C.P.; the Rev E. C. Smith, pastor of Metropolitan Baptist church; Edward Burns of the National Die Casters Union; and Lester Granger, of the National Urban League

Music was furnished by the famous a capella choir of Virginia State college, under the direction of Prof. J. Harold Montague.

member of the National Advisory board for Selective service; and Miss Jane Seaver, National Youth director in the office of Civilian Defense, will be among the prominent speakers to address the National Conference of Negro Youth, which will be held here Novembr 14-16.

All of the meetings during the conference session will be held at the Metropolitan Baptist church. The pastor of the church, Rev. R C. Smith, is also one of the conference speakers. The conference program follows:

The National Initiating committee of the conferense will meet on Friday at 3 p.m. Friday night there will be an opening mass meeting, the theme of which will be "Negro Youth Face the National Crisis." At this time Earl Dickerson, Lester Granger and Miss Dorothy Height will be among those to address the meeting.

Saturday, Nov. 15, the registration of delegates will begin, the morning session of the conference will be co-chaired by Herbert Reed and Miss Jeanette Welch. At this time conference organization and election of committee will take place.

Highlighting this session will be the keynote speech, which will be delivered by Miss Winifred Norman, chairman of the National Initiating committee.

The first of the plenary sessions will be held Saturday morning the theme of which will be 'Negro Youth Versus Hitler," the guest speaker being Miss Kung Buchang, YWCA, China.

The afternoon session on Saturday will consist of three panels, one on "Jobs in National Defense," with Dean Ralphael O'Hara Lanier of Hampton Institute as speaker. Miss Jane Seaver, national youth director, Office of Civilian Defense, will speak on the panel, "Citizenship — Its Rights and Duties." The panel "Negro Youth and the Armed Forces" will have Dr. Channing Tobias as guest speaker.

Saturday evening there will be a gigantic cultural festival which will center around the birthday celebration for W. C. Handy, father of the blues, who will celebrate his 68th birthday with the conference this night.

The religious youth convocation on Sunday morning will be addressed by Rev. Robert W. Brooks, of the Lincoln Congregational church, the theme of which will be "The Role of Christian Youth in the National Crisis."

At 3 p.m. the closing session of the conference will be held. Future plans of the conference will be outlined and discussed, after which the delegates will return to their respective communities to carry out the decision arrived at, and with the determination to solidify the mass action in the fight against Hitler.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Youth Meet Hears Ald. E. Dickerson

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A ringing call to Negro youth to "shake Negro America out of its complacency," and stand up and do battle against Hitler and Hitlerism, was issued here today by Earl B. Dickerson, Chicago alderman, and member of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

WILL ADDRESS YOUTH GROUPS IN WASHINGTON

Notables Scheduled To Talk At D.C. Confab November 14-16

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Richard Wright, famous author of "Native Son;" Earl Dickerson, member of the Fair Employment Practices committee; Dr. Channing Tobias,

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Youth Group Elects Miss Norman; Demands Reforms

WASHINGTON

The three-day session of the National Conference of Negro Youth, devoted to the task of clarifying the position of the nation's youth in the present crisis, ended Sunday after Miss Winifred Norman had been selected to head the group's permanent organization.

The conference, marked by one of the largest gatherings of youth from all sections of the country ever held in Washington, carried a registration and attendance in excess of 1200 at all of its major sessions.

Resolutions demanding full participation for the race in all of the activities of democracy and defense and urging fullest support of the fight to crush Hitler were adopted by the group.

In its declaration on the rights and duties of citizenship, the conference urged specific reforms for improvement of conditions affecting youth in the fields of education, health, and civil liberties.

Proposed Reform

A survey of schools in rural and urban areas, increased attention to the study of history of the race, inclusion of colored teachers in the faculties of mixed schools, and the offering of specialized training for colored youth for government posts and technical defense jobs were among the educational demands made.

For elevation of the race's health levels, proposals were made for a drive for better public health stations, free nursing aids, dissemination of health information, establishment of public health programs, and improvement of recreation and housing facilities.

Reforms in the field of civil liberties called for were passage of the federal anti-lynch bill, abolition of poll tax and other restrictive measures against voting, outlawing of organizations detrimental to the American way of life, and provision of a more equitable program of taxation.

Won't Unite with Whites

The question of affiliation with white youth organizations, one of the outstanding issues of the conference, was voted down at the group's final assembly. Resolutions calling for co-operation with such groups, however passed with little difficulty.

In its program of action, the conference pledged itself to work for the ending of discrimination in the armed forces, to seek an executive order barring discrimination in the army, navy and marine corps;

To co-operate with other groups seeking pay increases for soldiers, to work toward fuller co-operation with the USO, and to work toward better understanding between white and colored soldiers, through creation of an interracial committee under the supervision of the Joint Army and Navy Welfare Committee.

To Support FEPC

Support of the Fair Employment Practices Committee and co-operation with other organizations and groups seeking the end of industrial discrimination was also pledged.

The program adopted by the conference will be carried out in the direction of the communities throughout the nation under the direction of the Continuations Committee headed by Miss Norman, representative of Rho Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Other Officers

Other officers of the committee are: Miss Dorothy Height, executive secretary of the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA, honorary chairman; Miss Roberta Garnett, Detroit NAACP Youth Council, and Sherman Smith, W. Va. State College, vice chairmen;

Miss Cornella Jameson, Chicago Pilgrim Youth Federation, secretary, and the Rev. Samuel Williams, Vermont Avenue Baptist Church of Washington, D.C., treasurer.

41-1941

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STUDENT CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Hampton Sends Delegates to Meet

OCT 19 1941

HAMPTON INSTITUTE, Va., Oct. 16—Samuel A. Rosenberg, of the Division of Business at Hampton Institute, newly elected member of the executive committee of the Student Field Council of the National Council of Student Christian Associations, is meeting with that body this week in Atlanta, Ga., to discuss the national program of the Student Christian movement and its application to college life at Hampton Institute. Other members of this committee represent Berea college, University of Florida, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Tuskegee Institute, Tougaloo college, Emory university, Clemson college, Maryville college, and Shaw university.

41-1941

Pittsburgh Courie
Pittsburgh, Pa.

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

Negro Congress Doomed

CAYTON BELIEVES ORGANIZATION WILL PASS FROM THE SCENE

BY HORACE R. CAYTON

I PREDICT that within the next few months the Negro Congress, newest and most obstreperous of the national Negro organizations, will quietly pass from the scene. The reason for the Congress' possible fold will be the same old one of lack of support. The reason for the withdrawing of the support will be connected with the war, the CIO, John L. Lewis and the Communist party. Here is the story as I predict it will happen:

The National Negro Congress started out with a bang. It was mostly a left-inspired organization, but it had liberal and progressive leaders, such as A. Philip Randolph and Lester Granger. Gradually, however, as the Congress never became an organization supported by a membership but remained pretty much a paper front, the financial control, which meant the policy forming, fell into two hands: the Communist party and John L. Lewis of the CIO. It was not that John L. Lewis told the Congress what to do, but rather that the Congress found it convenient to do the things Lewis would support. For the past few years most of the money put into the Congress came from Lewis; the rest was supplied by the extreme left. Everything was swell as long as Lewis and the Communists saw eye to eye, but with Lewis joining the America First crowd (who look as much like Fascists as anything on the American scene) and opposing aid to Russia, things have begun to take on another hue.

Mr. Cayton

LEWIS WILL TURN

The Communists have always wanted a national figure like Lewis to go along with and it will be with great reluctance that they let the big fellow get away. If possible they will try to go along and follow his domestic policy and not raise too many questions about his foreign policy. But I am afraid the choice will not be up to them. It's my prediction that Lewis will turn on his former left friends and oppose them as bitterly as he has previously supported them. The payoff will come at the forthcoming CIO national convention. At that time the question of intervention and all out aid to England and the Soviet Union will be brought up on the floor. The leftists will vote with the conservative members of the CIO, leaving Lewis pretty much alone, perhaps even out on a limb.

BUT in winning aid for the Soviet Union the Communist will lose a strong friend and the National Negro Congress will lose a strong financial supporter. Lewis may even call upon the various unions within the CIO to withdraw any aid that they might have been giving the Congress. Whether he takes this latter step or not, most of them will withdraw their assistance in a stampede to disassociate themselves with the left after Lewis withdraws his support.

FURTHER LOSSES

For another reason, the Congress will suffer further losses in income and prestige. The entire Communist party of America is sort of in the way of the Soviet Embassy. At the present time most everyone, except the die-hard conservatives and the incipient Fascists, are in favor of giving all the aid possible to Russia. When the embassy is trying to iron out these delicate negotiations it is sort of embarrassing to have the "Daily Worker" connect up the aid to Russia program with a campaign to get Browder out of jail. Sooner or later the Comintern will step down on the boys and tell them to soft pedal it until Russia gets the aid that she wants and so sorely needs. The budget of the whole American party will perhaps be cut and the Negro Congress will stand in the way of losing a portion of its support from that direction.

MOST of the more astute race politicians have become aware of the impending shift and have pulled out. A. Philip Randolph quit last spring, when he fell out with John P. Davis, the factotum of the Congress. Lester Granger left even before, as did Henry Johnson of the Packing House Workers' Union. Others have fallen out along the way, and after the coming CIO convention, when the big fellow puts the heat on the left, the desertions will be wholesale.

GET ON PAYROLL

As one sincerely interested in employment for Negroes, I am sorry to see this source of money get out of the hands of the colored brethren. In view of this deep concern, I would like to pass on a little advice to the Negro America First committee—the little handful of die-hard Republican payrollers. Hurry up and organize a national organization of Negroes like the Congress, but with no Communist in it. Then when Lewis dismisses the National Negro Congress, go to him and ask for support. If you do this soon enough and have a good enough argument the big fellow may put you on his payroll—that is, if you can stand the company.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

End Jim-Crow

Chicago Congress in Open Letter to President Urges Steps Following Recent Criticism of Job Bans; Pushes Widespread Campaign

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHICAGO, June 19.—An open letter to President Roosevelt demanding immediate practical steps to follow up his recent criticism of employment discrimination in defense industries was made public here yesterday by the Chicago Council of the National Negro Congress.

The letter, signed by Ishmael P. Flory, Field Organizer for the NNC, urged particularly that "the Office of Production Management be prohibited from issuing further contracts to firms producing for 'national defense' unless those contracts specifically state that a very definite proportion of Negro workers in all classifications of occupations be employed."

At the same time, the Chicago Council of NNC announced a campaign for 4,000 jobs for Negroes in the Buick and Studebaker plants in the Chicago area. These plants, now under construction, will employ some 16,000 workers.

The quota of 4,000 jobs for Negroes, Mr. Flory stated, was based upon the abnormally large number of Negroes on the Cook County relief rolls.

The open letter to the President urged him to support the Marcantonio Bill, HR 3994, which would make illegal discrimination in industries operating under government contracts. It also called upon him to "take immediate steps to urge upon Congress to pass the Geyer Anti-Poll Tax Bill.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Writers League School Developed Steve Kingston

By Oakley Johnson

When Steve Kingston, 40-year-old Negro longshoreman, wrote the splendid pamphlet, "Frederick Douglass, Abolitionist, Liberator, Statesman," after studying one term at the Writers School of the League of American Writers, people started asking two questions: Who is Steve Kingston? And, what is the Writers School?

Steve Kingston is only an unusually dramatic example of what young people, working men and women with special artistic and cultural interests, may accomplish. He was born in the jim-crow poll-tax state of Alabama, and never had more than two or three years of schooling. He came north some years ago to get work, and soon found himself involved in the struggle of the Negro people for full rights, and this brought him into labor and progressive movements. He is a leader in the National Negro Congress, devoted, earnest, courageous, selfless.

He became convinced more than a year ago that the life and work of the great Negro leader, Douglass, held a special message for his people, and indeed for whites, too, and he went to work to get the facts set down in a pamphlet for wide distribution throughout the United States. He appealed to several writers to take up the task, and although they agreed with him about its importance, they were occupied with other work. There seemed no one available for the job.

Sold Thousands Of Copies

Steve Kingston decided, therefore, to do the job himself. He was not interested in royalties, as it happens, nor in "fame." He just wanted to get a certain necessary piece of work accomplished.

Thre was only one hitch — he had never written even an article, and he would have to learn first. He promptly enrolled in the class of **Magazine Article Writing** taught by Lucien Zacharoff, at the Writers School of New York, conducted by the League of American Writers at 381 Fourth Ave. In a single half-year term he learned much. In a few weeks after completing the course he devoted himself to studying the "Life and Times" of Frederick Douglass and to writing an eloquent summary of that remarkable document.

The popular pamphlet he produced, published by the National Negro Congress, has already sold several thousand copies, and is taking deep hold on both white and Negro people.

"Mr. Kingston showed a flair for polemical writing," said his teacher, Mr. Zacharoff. "Everything written in the commercial press about Negroes outraged his sense of justice, and he immediately wanted to write about such things. His desire to write was to a large extent motivated by his desire to help his people, to help them win full democratic rights."

But Kingston has no narrow view of the struggle, as though progressive whites had no part in it. He calls on whites specifically to see that the cause of the Negro people is the common cause of all progressive America. "Through the joint efforts of the progressives of today, Negro and white," says Steve Kingston, in the Foreword of his booklet, "we can solve the problems of our day."

School of A New Kind

Mr. Zacharoff says he encouraged his pupil, Mr. Kingston, to write about the things that stirred him, and found that whatever he did for the course, even if not always "correct" in language, was always interesting and worth reading.

The Writers School which gave Steve Kingston a chance to get going is a young and growing institution, and many other men and women, young and middle-aged, are getting the same kind of opportunity. In the four years of its existence the School's yearly enrollment has risen from 85 to 385 students. Students take only the specialized courses they want —magazine writing, or verse-writing, or labor journalism, or any of a dozen others. There are no academic "pre-requisites" for "matriculating" here. Graduates of each course have on the whole had considerable success in publishing their work, either in the commercial field or in labor publications.

The Writers School may truly be said to be a school of a new kind, a school of high professional standards that is friendly to labor. "We are the only writing school founded in the belief that the vitality of art and education is bound up with the whole people and the people's freedom," the School's catalog says. "And we are the only school in the East completely staffed by writers."

This explains why so many of the School's students come from trade unions, often with scholarships paid by the unions or in certain cases by the Writers School itself. Some thirty or more local or naitonal unions, including the American Federation of Musicians, AFL, the Plumbers and Steamfitters, AFL, the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, CIO, and the United Mine Workers, CIO, have had trade union members among the School's students.

Ballad Writers Workshop

The courses are fascinating and eminently practical in subject matter and aim. Several courses are given in the short story, introductory and advanced. One course gives instruction in writing children's stories; another in writing for the pulp and confession magazines. The latter, taught by Jean Karsavina, boasts the highest number of the School's student sales to magazines. Another course, Writing for the Labor Press, taught by Alexander L. Crosby, has succeeded in training quite a number of contributors, and even a few editors, for labor publications, including shop papers. Other courses give instruction and training in radio writing, play writing, screen writing, the writing of poetry.

Perhaps one of the most interesting is the Ballad Writers' workshop, in which three adventurous young men, Lee Hays, Peter Bowers, and Millard Lampell, encourage the writing of "hard-hitting songs for hard-hit people." Old and new folk songs are used as models. Songs of working class struggle, like "Joe Hill," parodies of well-known songs, songs that spring out of the picket line—these and similar kinds of folk music take life in this unconventional laboratory.

The spring term of the Writers School is now in its fourth week. The fall term will begin the middle of September.

The Writers School of New York is not the only educational work sponsored by the League of American Writers. Schools are conducted by League branches also at Hollywood, California, and at the Highlander Folk School in Tennessee. This coming August, in the White Mountains, New Hampshire, the League will hold a Writers Conference which will undoubtedly attract many people who desire to combine a vacation with the discussion of literary and social problems.

STEVE KINGSTON

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

BIGGEST BATTLE STILL AHEAD, WARNS NNC BODY

Praises Roosevelt's Order Banning Jim Crowism in Defense

Characterizing President Roosevelt's recent order calling for the abolition of discrimination in defense industry and Government agencies as "a great step forward," in the Negro people's fight for "complete democracy," the National Negro Congress warned, however, that the real battle for full citizenship rights still remains to be fought and won.

Pointing out that the Negro people can well take new courage from this victory, the Congress in a statement made public this week, said: "The signing of this executive order should be a signal to the Negro people to press militantly forward to demand of the President that he recommend to Congress immediate passage of the anti-poll tax and anti-lynching bills."

The Negro people, in conjunction with all the progressive forces in America, who want to aid in this fight, must immediately back the campaign for passage of the Mercantonio Anti-Discrimination Bill, which sets forth the necessary penalties for non-compliance with the President's order, the statement said.

The statement called upon the Negro people to press demands upon the President and Congress now for immediate federal aid to education and the extension of health, child welfare, old age assitance and housing legislation.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS SPEAKING:

FDR's Anti-Jim Crow Decree And Present U.S. Foreign Policy Seen As Aids To Democracy

NEW YORK, N. Y.—President Roosevelt's recent order abolishing discrimination in defense industry and our Government's pledge of full support to the Soviet Union in the fight against Hitlerism, art two important steps in the defense of American democracy which will receive "a welcome response from the Negro people," the National Negro Congress said in a statement released here this week by Dr. Max Yergan, president of the organization.

Issued by the national board of the Congress, the statement said:

"The action of the President against Negro discrimination and the new turn taken in the war are matters which require serious consideration by all who seek the final victory of democracy and manhood rights for Negro America.

"The pledge of our government for full aid to the Soviet Union in the brave fight against Hitlerism, will find welcome response from the Negro people . . . because of the genuine admiration which Negro people have for a land where race discrimination has been abolished."

The statement made it clear that the National Negro Congress will redouble its struggle to secure immediate passage of the anti-lynching and anti-poll tax bills, and the abolition of Jim Crow from the armed forces, to bring to Negro draftees a chance to experience democracy in training camps, and to bring about the fullest cooperation between labor and the Negro people in the defense of labor's rights.

The turn of events on an international scale, not only highlights the real danger of Hitlerism abroad, the statement declared, but makes it clear as never before to the American people that "oppression of Negro people at home by the Hitler-like Ku Klux Klan, the Black Legion, the ugly hordes of Negro haters who dominate the life of the South, is the surest way to lose our battle for Democracy."

NNC Policy Statement

The Negro people recent events in America and Europe hold deep significance. The action of the President against Negro discrimination and the new turn taken in the war are matters which require serious consideration by all who seek the final victory of democracy and manhood rights for Negro America.

President Roosevelt's executive order abolishing jim-crow practices in the training and employment of Negroes in defense industries and the federal government 's a signal victory in the march of our people to complete democratic rights in America. By that act the President has made it possible for the willing hands of hundreds of thousands of Negro workers to be employed in the vital task of the defense of our country. The new opportunities thus open to Negro youth for skilled training and employment, the new jobs which will be available for Negro wage earners will have a profound effect on the social and economic condition of our people. This victory opens up possibilities for Negro people to advance towards full citizenship in our democracy.

Cites Hitler's Attack

Of no less concern to us is the new turn in the war occasioned by the unwarranted attack of German fascism upon the Soviet Union. The slightest possibility of successful conquest by the forces of Hitler of the vast territory and resources of the Soviet Union is a cause for alarm to all American people, but especially to the Negro people for whom the world domination of Hitlerism would mean disaster to all their hopes for complete democratic rights.

SPEAKS FOR NNC

MAX YERGAN, president of the National Negro Congress, who this week makes public new message to the nation as promulgated by the congress following the new turn of international and national events.

The pledge of our government for full aid to the Soviet Union in the brave fight against Hitlerism will find welcome response from the Negro people. This is true not only because of the grave military disadvantage to which our country would be put by the defeat of the Soviet Union, but, equally because of the genuine admiration which Negro people have for a land where race discrimination has been abolished.

Deplores "Master Race"

The hatred of Hitlerism, with its theories of a "master race" and its practice of shameful oppression and exploitation of minorities and small nations, has always been felt deeply by the Negro people. It is because of this hatred that we are greatly stirred by the new trend which the war has taken, from one where the conflict was over the right to control wealth and exploit colonies, to one where the issues has become clearly the destruction of Hitlerism and the victory of democracy. Only with the destruction of Hitlerism can steps be taken which will bring freedom and self-government to the peoples of Africa, the West Indies, India, China and all the world. Only the extermination everywhere in the world of the forces of Hitlerism can guarantee the survival of democracy. Without democracy the Negro people cannot live.

It is now the clear task of every section of the Negro people to give their fullest support to the cause of a genuine democratic struggle against Hitlerism both at home and abroad. This is the only way to secure manhood rights for the Negro people and to truly defend American democracy.

The National Negro Congress has always used its energy to accomplish democracy for Negro people. In working towards this goal it has taken its place among the true defenders of America, for only the fullest citizenship for all Americans can guarantee national unity. Now more than ever before it will become clear to the vast majority of American people that oppression of Negro people at home by the Hitler-like Ku Klux Klan, the Black Legion, the ugly hordes of Negro haters who dominate the life of the South and who seek to impose second rate citizenship upon Negro Americans is the surest way to lose our battle for democracy.

For this reason the National Negro Congress will seek with redoubled efforts to win its struggles for manhood rights for the Negro people. This means first and foremost the waging of a resolute struggle for immediate passage of the anti-lynching and anti-poll tax bills; the earnest effort to secure the removal of all Jim-Crow practices in our armed forces; the bringing to Negro youth—drafted to defend democracy — an opportunity in their training camps to experience the benefits of democracy; the day to day work to bring tens of thousands of Negro workers into defense industry in accordance with the policy expressed by the President.

In this period the National Negro Congress sees the need for fullest cooperation with labor in defense of labor rights. Economic security for the Negro people can only be won through full support of the progressive trade unions in their efforts to protect the living standards and liberties of all workers.

We will oppose forces in this country that would seek, through compromise and appeasement, to weaken the forces of democracy in their objective of the complete extermination of Hitlerism.

To strive to unite the Negro people, with all democratic forces in America, is not a new task for the National Negro Congress. We shall continue this task in this crucial period of our national life confident that real unity of effort of our churches, our fraternal, women, civic, youth organizations and of all of us will guarantee a brighter day for our people and all the peoples of the world.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

OBJECTIONABLE ADVERTISING

THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS is calling for a racial boycott against the Noxzema Chemical Company of Baltimore, Md., for some insulting literature sent out with their collection letters. According to Congress officials, the company's credit manager, G. T. Brian, sent out letters to scores of the firm's customers throughout the country, showing the caricature of a Negro peeping from behind a pile of wood. The caption done in black letters on a red background said: "Nigger in the Woodpile."

Mr. Brian stated that he had no intention of doing injustice to anyone but said: "I often think up new and novel ways of appealing to our customers in order to get them to pay their bills, and this is one of my newest ideas. I liked it so well that I decided to use it as a regular form of collection letter. It is one of my pets."

We don't think it was a new idea at all, since this expression has been common in the South for many years. Perhaps it is because Negroes seldom protest against it that many white people think nothing of using it. These same people would not dare to use a simlar expression holding up some other racial group to ridicule. For that reason we think a protest and boycott, if necessary, would check this growing tendency to caricature the Negro in advertising.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Blasts Max Yergan As A Communist

JAN 23 1941

BROOKLYN, N. Y., (PFS) — George E. Wibecan, Brooklyn's explosive Republican leader, refused to appear on the same platform with Dr. Max Yergan, national president of the National Negro Congress at the mammouth celebration of the seventy-eighth anniversary of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, it was revealed here on Sunday.

Branding the Negro Congress leader as a "Red," Wibecan angrily told reporters that he would have nothing to do with anything that "looks like Communism."

Principal speaker at the meeting which had an overflow attendance was Yergan, nationally-known educator.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

NEGRO CONGRESS ASKS LEHMAN END JIM CROW ON JOBS

JAN 1 3 1941

Pointing to evidence that New York state employers with war orders totalling millions of dollars are systematically refusing to give jobs to Negro workers, the National Negro Congress has written Governor Lehman demanding an appointment with him in an effort to break down this illegal discrimination.

The letter declared in part:

"The second report of the New York State Temporary Commission on the Condition of the Colored Urban Population — a commission established by you — made to the State Legislature in February, 1939, had this to say about the employment of Negroes:

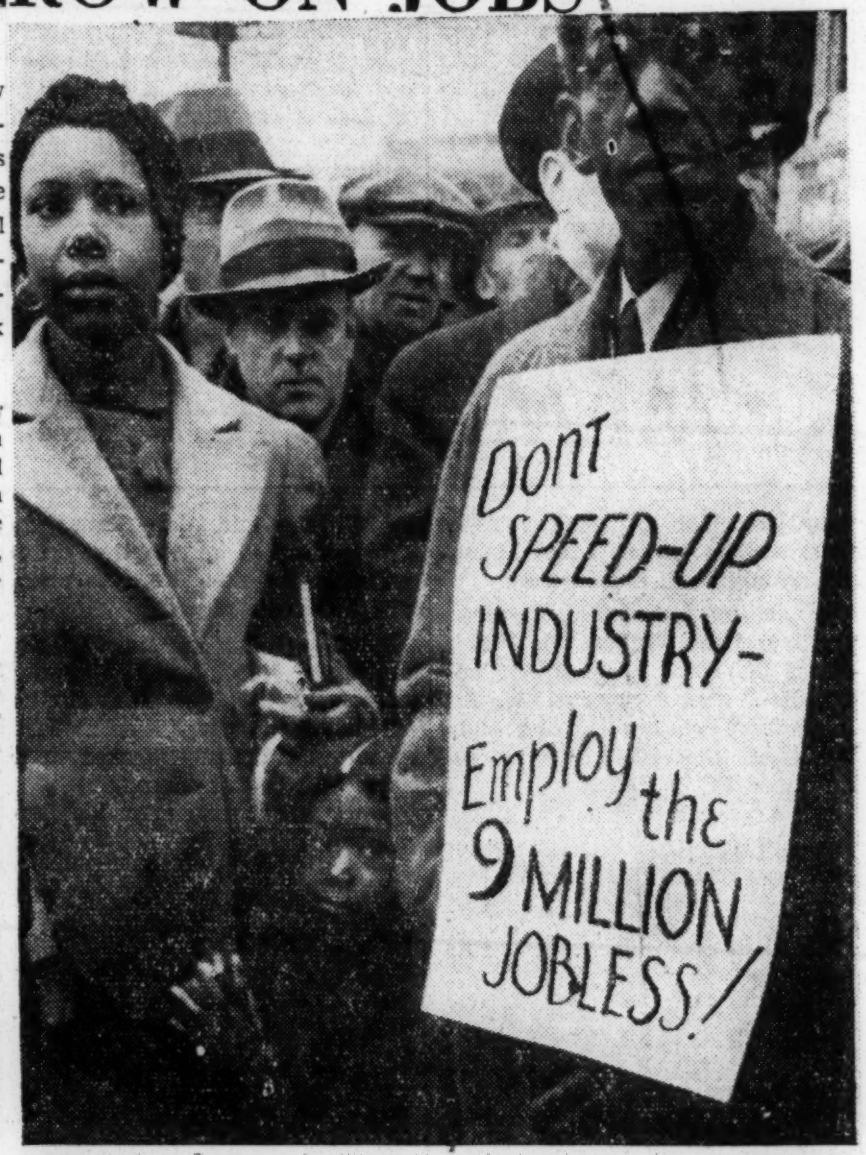
" 'The Commission found, for instance, that financial and mercantile enterprises which employ hundreds of thousands of white-collar workers throughout the state give no consideration to Negroes for these jobs. Factory work is largely closed to Negro workers except for the garment and fur trades and related industries in New York City.'

"Referring to the 10,000 New Yorkers who are expected to get training in the aircraft industries, the Negro leaders show that these industries keep the Negro from an opportunity to learn these trades. They ask Governor Lehman what measures he will take to bring these conditions to an end.

"We are interested," they wrote, "in meeting with the State Council on National Defense to work out a program that will include the Negro on a fair and equal basis as a part of the jobs and training program for national defense. Democracy for the Negro means the right to earn a living on parity with all other Americans.

"As Governor of the State of New York and chairman of the State Council of National Defense, we look forward to an early appointment with the Council, at which time we might jointly seek a solution to these pressing problems in the spirit of true democracy."

The letter was signed by Hope R Stevens, William H. Gaulden, New York State Committee, and Louis E Burnham for the New York Council of the Congress



—Daily Worker Photo

Protest Job Discrimination

JAN 1 3 1941

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Geo. B. Murphy Becomes Negro Congress Official

MAR 1 21941

Well-Known Leader Appointed as Administrative Secretary; Recently Resigned from N.A.A.C.P.

MAR 1 21941

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 11.—George B. Murphy, Jr., who recently resigned from his position as director of publicity for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has been appointed National Administrative Secretary of the National Negro Congress, officials of the latter organization announced here yesterday.

GEORGE B. MURPHY, JR.

Murphy, who commenced work with the Negro Congress March 1, is a graduate of Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa. Since July, 1938, he has been associated with NAACP, working at the organization's national office in New York. He has done graduate work at Columbia University, and taught for three years at Allen University, Columbia, S. C.

MAR 1 21941

For seven years he was employed by the Afro-American Newspapers, working at various times as manager of the paper's Washington and New York offices. He also worked for several months on the New York Writers Project. He is married to the former Lillie Jones of Columbia, S. C. He and his wife will make their home in Washington, where they lived formerly while Mr. Murphy was employed by the Afro-American.

Murphy was the keynote speaker Sunday, March 9 in Boston at a State-Wide Conference sponsored by the Eastern New England Congress for Equal Opportunities, an affiliate of the National Negro Congress. The conference theme centered around the fight to pass an Equal Rights Statute which has already been introduced in Massachusetts legislature.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Baltimore Job Rally To Climax Negro Drive

APR 24 1941

APR 24 1941

Parley Sunday Gets Elks Support; Robeson to Sing at Meeting

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BALTIMORE, April 23. — Combining the mass strength of the National Negro Congress, the Maryland Elks and the Maryland Youth Congress, and backed with the active support of the great peoples artist Paul Robeson, the drive to win jobs for 7,000 Negro workers in the Jim-Crow plants of the Glenn L. Martin Aircraft Co. and Bethlehem Steel will go into high gear when an expected 1,000 delegates attend a Job Conference to be held Sunday at the Elks Home, 1528 Madison Ave.

The conference will be conducted from 2 to 6 P.M., and in the evening of the same day a public rally at which Robeson will sing will be held at Baltimore Coliseum, 2201 N. Monroe St.

ELKS JOIN DRIVE

APR 24 1941

In announcing the support of the Elks, which has a total national membership of 175,000, to the drive to break down Jim-Crow barriers in defense industries, J. Finley Wilson, Grand Exalted Ruler of the organization, said:

"The great body of Elk lodges and temples in Maryland, the District of Columbia and Delaware are giving full support to this Jobs Conference to win 7,000 jobs for Negroes at Glenn Martin's because we believe a real defense program includes jobs for every American citizen regardless of race, creed or color. Our people want jobs, not relief."

Miss Ida R. Cummings, leading woman member of the Elks, declared that **"Negro women, who suffer doubly the handicaps that all women face in a world when job competition is keen, have an important stake in this fight for jobs. Our women Elks are behind this fight 100 per cent, because they themselves in many instances represent the family breadwinner."**

As part of the drive for jobs, registration points have been opened throughout the city where Negro workers are registering for employment and listing their qualifications as proof against company slanders that Negro workers are not fitted for defense jobs.

The conferences of ministers of both the A.M.E. and Methodist Churches this week adopted resolutions pledging their full support to the job drive.

Speakers at the conference will include Nicholas Fontecchio, director of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee at the Sparrows Point plant of the Bethlehem Steel Co., and Frank J. Bender, regional CIO director.

APR 24 1941

The CIO Industrial Union Council of Baltimore has already gone on record in "wholehearted support to the National Negro Congress to obtain jobs for Negroes in the Glenn L. Martin plant."

Meanwhile Negro Congress officials condemned Sidney Hillman who, they charge, has ignored repeated urgings that he use his office to combat industrial discrimination against Negroes and has contented himself with a mild and ineffectual letter to employers timidly suggesting that they consider the idea of employing Negro workers.

41-1941

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

Negro Congress Opens Sharp National Struggle Against Jim-Crow Industries

MAY 6 - 1941

MAY 6 - 1941

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 5.—A militant drive to mobilize thousands of job-needy Negro citizens for action in Maryland and the District of Columbia got under way this week, when the National Negro Congress started distribution of 75,000 leaflets telling the story of its fight to win 7,000 jobs for Negroes at the Glenn L. Martin Aircraft Company, largest airplane factory in the East.

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The leaflet points to the Martin plant with its 375 million dollars in contracts as a shining example of how the Federal Government is cooperating with defense industry in the creation of thousands of new jobs every month while aiding industry in maintaining a rigid jim-crow policy toward the employment of Negroes. It directs citizens to: register for defense employment at the Baltimore and D.C. offices of the Congress, volunteer to go on delegations to the Martin Plant to apply for jobs, send thousands of telegrams, letters, telephone calls to President Roosevelt, Secretary of War Stimson and to Sidney Hillman, labor director in the Office of Production Management, demanding jobs at the airplane plant.

At the same time, Congress officials announced, delegations of job seekers have begun to make regular trips to Glenn Martin's and leaflet distribution is going on in more than a score of cities in Maryland including Baltimore, and also in Washington.

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Representing 236 organizations, including more than 100 labor groups, a score of Elk lodges and temples, 616 delegates attended the conference.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

We Want Work!

MAY 10 1941

The activity of the New Negro Alliance, the National Negro Congress, and other organizations in the campaign to secure jobs for Negroes is to be encouraged. So long have business concerns refused to hire competent Negroes in capacities other than porters and janitors that the condition has developed within thousands of the race a feeling of impotence in the face of it. Primarily because of this attitude it has been possible for these establishments 'to get away with this policy."

The New Negro Alliance in its campaign has proved that such things need not be. They have shown that with organization of pressure concessions can be won. The great need at this time is more and more pressure. This pressure can only come from the ranks of the Negro people and their friends in labor unions and other progressive groups. Hence it stands to reason that more and more people will have to be drawn into this campaign. The effort to place Negroes in jobs now closed to them by sole reason of their color will become decidedly easier when it is known that the campaign is a mass movement.

The campaign of the National Negro Congress to place colored men on the buses in New York City netted 70 jobs there recently. Once more the slogan—"It can't be done"—has been proved false.

The present target of our leaders is the Glenn Martin airplane factory in Baltimore. Glenn Martin has received Government contracts amounting to $322,000,000. In the newly expanding plant, 40,000 workers will be employed. Negroes are nearly one fifth of the population in the Baltimore and Washington area. The National Negro Congress is demanding a proportionate share of jobs for the Negro population of this area, 7,000 jobs for Negroes at Glenn L. Martin!

To win this campaign millions of Negroes must be jarred out of the complacency which is the strongest ally of racial prejudice and discrimination. 7,000 jobs at Glenn Martin can be realized only if Negroes in the Washington and Baltimore area unite solidly behind those who are directing the drive.

MAY 10 1941

Seven thousand jobs at Glenn Martin!

Yes!

Yes!

But many tmes 7,000 Negro voices must take up the cry and actively support the cause.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

NEGROES CHARGE BIAS

Transportation Board 'Passed Buck' on Complaint, They Say

The Brooklyn Chapter of the National Negro Congress charged yesterday that the Board of Transportation has "passed the buck" on its complaint that Negro employes on the city's unified transit lines had been subjected to discrimination.

JUN 2 1941

The civic organization declared that complaints that Negro porters had not been afforded a chance to advance to better grades in the city's transportation service had been met with the reply that the Municipal Civil Service Commission was the place to lodge protests.

"In this way the board finds an excuse to continue to discriminate against the Negro worker and deny to him earned promotions," the congress charged. The civic group urged such employes to affiliate with the Transport Workers Union which has called a meeting for BMT and IRT porters, to be held on Wednesday at 98 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Behind the Dismissal Of Dr. Yergan

• As 12 more teachers are dismissed unjustly from City College on red-baiting inventions, the real meaning of this entire reactionary campaign comes to light again in the forthright statement issued a few days ago by Dr. Max Yergan, noted Negro leader and scholar.

MAY 21 1941

The institution also failed to reappoint Dr. Yergan, on the insulting pretext that "different personalities" were needed. But this subterfuge was a vain attempt to make the public think that the Negro people do not have common cause with the Teachers Union in defending the schools against the Rapp-Coudert Committee. Dr. Yergan's dismissal is due to the witch hunting atmosphere created by this committee.

Involved in his case, Dr. Yergan's statement pointed out, is the "freedom of teachers to work for democracy in college and community." This, indeed is the "crime" of Dr. Yergan, who is president of the National Negro Congress which helped to achieve the historic job victory for Negroes on the New York buses. In identifying himself with labor and with the anti-war sentiments of the majority of the American people, Dr. Yergan has stood shoulder to shoulder with the organized teachers for better schools, free trade unionism and high academic standards.

Dr. Yergan's dismissal throws light on the special discrimination visited upon the entire Negro people by the Board of Higher Education. He asks, in his statement, **"Are Negroes to be permanently appointed, with tenure, to teaching positions in the city-supported colleges of New York?"** Out of four such institutions, not one Negro holds such a position—and Dr. Yergan is dismissed.

Coudert's drive is not only against the schools and the teachers' unions, it is distinctly anti-Negro. Parents, labor and the Negro people have common interests in defeating it.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Dr. Yergan Challenges 60 On 'Negro Rights' Sincerity

Says Warmongers Seek To Barter Jobs for Negro Support

Pointing out the real danger that faces the Negro people from those who would have us barter the right of employment in exchange for supporting a war that is "the instrument of oppression of the people the world over," Dr. Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress called upon the 60 prominent Americans who signed a statement urging an investigation of discrimination against Negroes in defense industry to demonstrate their good faith "in the employment of Negroes in jobs these men control."

MAY 24 1941

The statement to which Dr. Yergan referred, was released for publication May 7, and widely publicized in the nation's press. The New York newspaper, PM devoted nine pages to an illustrated discussion of the statement. The statement was signed by such prominent men as Marshall Field, millionaire owner of PM and the Marshall Field department store in Chicago which refuses to employ Negroes.

Others who signed the statement which declared that discrimination against Negroes in defense industry should receive "thorough and impartial investigation," were Mayor LaGuardia, Governor Herbert Lehman, Lessing Rosenwarld, Harper Sibley, former president of the United Chamber of Commerce; and many others prominent in the civic, religious and industrial life of the country.

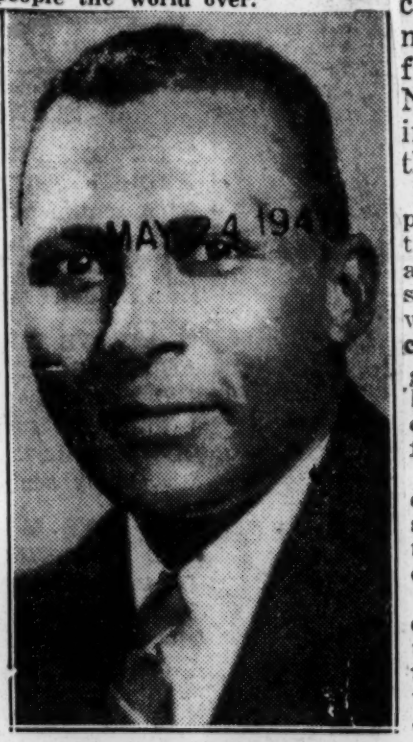
The complete text of Dr. Yergan's statement follows:

"It is significant that the statement of those 60 prominent Americans place all emphasis on taking the Negro into the so-called defense industries. We do not say that it is an incorrect emphasis, because the Negro people have a right to participate in the full job-life of the country. However, I should like to point out that the pattern, the basis, for excluding Negroes from jobs was laid long before the present so-called crisis; consequently, emphasis should be on that form of economic security which comes from regular, normal participation in the job-life of the country.

"We should like to have evidence of the good faith of these 60 persons in the form of immediate employment of Negroes in the jobs—or in some of the jobs—these men control.

"It would be a mistake, and it would do serious harm to the Negro people, if they demanded jobs in exchange for support of war-making plans and of war itself, so this war holds no good for the Negro but will usher in destruction of his democratic rights and further denial of the meager civil liberties he enjoys already.

"The Negro people must insist on jobs while at the same time opposing this imperialist war and our intervention in it. It is a war which cannot possibly serve to strengthen democracy or to liberate the people, for it is an instrument of oppression of the people the world over."



DR. MAX YERGAN

MAY 24 1941

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

COLORED MASSES MUST UNITE IN JIM CROW FIGHT

NNC Outlines Program; Cites Growing Unrest Among Negro Citizens

Because the Roosevelt administration during the past year has implemented its national policy of jim crowism with a series of undemocratic, pro-war actions which threaten acute suffering for the race in its fight for job security, broadest unity is needed in the effort to "win freedom" for the group, the National Negro Congress said in a statement made public this week.

JUN 21 1941

The statement, a declaration of policy approved by the organization's national board of directors at a meeting here on June 8, represents the congress's attitude toward the development within recent months of a number of groups, whose professed aims have been the breaking down of discrimination against the race in defense industry.

The statement outlined six basic demands which any such group should raise in order to meet the test of fully representing the needs of the race.

They are: fight to abolish jim crow, to demand the abolition of the poll tax, to demand passage of the anti-lynching bill, to demand the opening up of jobs to Negroes on the basis of equality with other Americans, to obtain broadest unity of all Americans to win freedom for the race.

Need Support

Referring specifically to the proposed "March on Washington" committee, which is sponsoring a job march on the National Capital, July 1, the statement said:

"Throughout the country all individuals and organizations should see to it that this march lives up to the test already outlined. As far as our resources permits, we will support the aims of the masses who wish to see this mass demonstration in Washington actually success in winning the long sought need of the race for jobs, democracy, justice, and peace.

"Other gorups have also declared themselves in favor of jobs for Negroes," the statement continued, "but some of these have rendered themselves suspect by their attempt to persuade the race that only by unquestioning support of the British Empire can the Negro hope to enjoy democracy. Such a group is the 'Fight for Freedom Committee,' which had the audacity to advertise in the colored press seeking support of the race.

"This committee said it was in favor of the right of Negroes to have jobs in defense industries. But its honorary chairman is Senator Carter Glass of Virginia, one of the most anti-Negro figures in our American life. Its membership includes principal stockholders of the Glenn L. Martin Aircraft Company, a company notorious for the fact that it has Government contracts amounting to 375 millions and coldly refuses to employ a single skilled colored person. . . ."

Greenwood, S. C. Index-Journal
June 27, 1941

INTERESTING SITUATION

Congressman A. W. Mitchell, Negro Democrat from Chicago, made a speech in the national House of Representatives Tuesday on the loyalty of the Negro in America and in the course of it made this statement:

"I wish to go on record as condemning the activities of the so-called National Negro Congress as expressed in a resolution which I understand was passed by that organization while in session here (Washington) last week which resolution purported to set forth a statement that should this country become involved in a war with Soviet Russia, Negroes would refuse to fight on the side of our Government. This I brand as a deliberate misstatement of fact."

This is an interesting situation, showing most clearly how the National Negro Congress stands in loyalty to Soviet Russia and the doctrine of Communism.

The National Negro Congress has headquarters in Washington and has, according to statement in the World-Telegram Almanac a membership of one and a half million.

41-1941
The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Congress In Philadelphia Asks More Jobs

JAN 7—1941

Parley Sets Up Officers; Hits Discrimination in Schools

(Special to the Daily Worker)

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 6.—"People want and need the National Negro Congress."

Goldie Ervin, executve secretary of the local council of the congress, in a plea for a campaign to broaden the organization and its fight for jobs for Negroes gave the keynote of a gathering here which named leaders for a membership drive.

Mrs. Helen Druckett was named chairman of the organizing committee. Others chosen to head the drive were Mrs. Clara Delma Thompson, secretary; Juanita Brown, treasurer; Rusell Watson, director.

Marshals of divisions will be Anthony Beutee, Harold Kotzsker, Hazel Baskerville, Charles Fred White, William Davis, Mrs. Celestine Fulchon, Rosa Pitts, William C. Jason, John Butler, Mrs. Mattie Johnson.

Others who attended the meeting were Rose Kenny, Mary Louise Tyson, Mrs. William C. Jason, Lena Johnson, Julian Harris, Winnie Artis, Minnie Gorenstein.

"Through unity and organization we must demand of the powers that be, our place in the stream of American life," said Watson. "Only through organization and unity can the Negro people achieve equal opportunity for employment for which we are qualified. Only through organization can we open the possibility of seeing in Philadelphia in the near future full representation on the city council, in all the departments of the city, state and federal government and in private industry. Let us dedicate ourselves to the task of ending the policy of exclusion in the school district of Philadelphia."

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

B'klyn Negroes To Meet With Transport B'd

JAN 4 1941

To Ask Bus Drivers Jobs for Negroes in Borough

Representatives of the Brooklyn Council of the National Negro Congress will have a hearing Thursday morning before the Board of Transportation, 250 Hudson St., to discuss the question of jobs for Negroes on bus lines that are to replace present Brooklyn trolley lines.

The Transport Workers Union contract with the City of New York contains clauses protecting the rights of Negro transit workers and its program includes points stressing their rights to promotions.

The Brooklyn Urban League, YMCA groups, and National Association for the Advancement of Colored Peoples are supporting the Negro Congress fight for jobs.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Negro Congress Seeks Life Imprisonment

JAN 9 1941

Get Request From Girl Asking Mercy On Insane Prisoner

WILMINGTON, Del.—Another letter was sent last week to Governor Richard C. McMullen, of the State of Delaware, by the Wilmington Negro Congress asking him to intercede in the death sentence of Cornell Robinson, who was sentenced to die on January 14 for attacking a white girl.

Leo C. Fields, president of the Congress, said that the letter was sent after a signed request was obtained from the offended girl and her mother, asking that the sentence be commuted to life imprisonment.

The testimony of a psychiatrist adjudged the defendant mentally unbalanced. Robinson has a record of sex delinquency in the past but was never adequately penalized because his victims were colored but was only sentenced to death when his victim was a white girl.

JAN 9 1941

The congress asked that his sentence be changed to life imprisonment instead of the death penalty.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Co-Chairmen For Conference Named

JAN 4 1941

NEW YORK—(A N P)—Carey McWilliams, white, California commissioner of immigration and housing, Prof. Walter Rautenstrauch, white, dean of the school of mechanical engineering at Columbia univresity, and Dr. Max Yergan, president of the National Negro congress, have accepted to serve co-chairmen of the committee of 150 sponsors for the fifth national conference of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, it was announced today.

The Conference it was announced last week, will be held at the Claridge hotel, Atlantic City, on Saturday and Sunday, March 29 and 30.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Congress Spurs Equal Rights Struggle

JAN 2 4 1941 (Special to the Daily Worker)

BOSTON, Jan. 23—Since its formation in 1935, immediately after the establishment of the National Negro Congress, the Eastern New England Congress for Equal Opportunities has been the Boston council of that national organization. During the past year the Congress has lent its active support to every progressive movement in the community, state and nation. Its representatives have taken part in conferences called by Labor's Non-Partisan League, the CIO, and other labor organizations, to protest against reactionary legislation such as the Smith amendment to the Wagner Act. Active aid was given to the Laundry Workers Union during a strike at the Lewandos plant, when efforts to split the unity of the Negro and white workers were defeated.

Prior to the opening of the Lenox St. housing project, petitions drawn up and sponsored by the Congress were circulated; they demanded extension of the FHA program in the Outer South End and Lower Roxbury, slum areas where the Negro tenants are compelled to pay excessively high rents for sub-standard quarters harmful to health. The Congress has obtained the sponsorship of Rep. Milton Cook of Ward 12, who has a relatively large Negro constituency, in filing a bill aimed at excessive rentals exacted of Negro tenants.

In addition to an intensive drive now under way to build up the youth section, the Congress is currently devoting its best energies to organizing a state-wide conference on March 9, at which time it is hoped that national officers will be the main speakers.

The chairman of the Congress is James S. R. Bourne, active participant in civil rights movements; Dr. Robert A. Simmons, vice-chairman; William Harrison, executive secretary and Clinton L. Oliver, director of youth activities.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Congress Backs Demands Of Bus Strike

MAR 14 1941

Praises Aims of Strikers, Flays Jim-Crow Policy of Lines

In a letter to John A. Ritchie, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Fifth Avenue Coach Co. the local branch of the National Negro Congress yesterday demanded that the firm negotiate with the striking Transport Workers Union in good faith.

The letter, which expressed support of the workers' demands for a 25 per cent wage increase and improved working conditions, cited the firm's long record of discrimination against Negroes.

"We have observed," the letter, signed by Hope Stevens, president of the Congress, said "over a period of years your policy of discrimination against Negroes which has been reflected in your not employing any Negro bus drivers."

This policy is further put into effect in other categories of employment, the Negro Congress charged. At the same time, the Negro people are forced to use the company's buses because of the franchise granted it by the city.

HIT JIM-CROW

MAR 14 1941

"During 1938 and 1939," the letter continued, "the Transport Workers Union proposed to representatives of your firm recommendations that would have blotted out once and and for all this anti-Negro policy. The Transport Workers Union sent Negro mechanics and chauffeurs to be employed as bus drivers at the World's Fair during these two years. These men were refused jobs because of their race."

At the same time, the Negro Congress pledged its wholehearted support of the strike in a letter to Michael Quill, president of the TWU.

"The work that your union has done to advance the cause of the Negro people is gratifying," the letter stated. "We hope that you will win a speedy victory."

The letter to Quill was signed by William Gaulden, secretary of the state continuations committee of the Negro Congress.

The Brooklyn Council of the Negro Congress yesterday also expressed its full support for the striking bus drivers in a letter from Malcolm G. Martin, council president, to Austin Hogan, president of the TWU of Greater New York.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Yergan to Open Foreign-Born Aid Parley Today

MAR 29 1941

Negro Congress Head to Be Chairman in Absence Of Carey McWilliams at Atlantic City Conference; Noted Speakers to Honor Marcantonio Tonight

Dr. Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress, will open the Fifth National Conference of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign-Born at the President Hotel in Atlantic City today in the absence of Carey McWilliams, chairman of the American Committee, who was forced to stay in California because of a concerted reactionary drive by the California State Legislature to abolish the State Division on Immigration and Housing, of which he is the head.

Mr. McWilliams, in a message to the Conference, stated that, "The year 1940 was characterized by an intensification of practically all the issues faced by the foreign born in America."

MAR 29 1941

"In retrospect," the message stated, "1940 will probably be viewed as merely the first year of the war against the foreign born. I know that the delegates to the Fifth National Conference will not be intimidated, or coerced or misled, and that they will go about the business of the conference with the same determination, the same courage, the same energy and the same clear-mindedness that has always characterized the work of the American Committee. Each and every manifestation of prejudice, bigotry and intolerance must be vigorously exposed."

MAR 29 1941

Speakers at the public opening session of the conference will include Prof. Walter Rautenstrauch, chairman of the Department of Industrial Engineering at Columbia University; Josephine Truslow Adams, vice-president of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties; Donald Henderson, president of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America; Oliver M. Salisbury, California vice-president of the American Communications Association; Pearl M. Hart, of Chicago; Manuel Buaken, of Los Angeles; and Curt Swinburne, secretary of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born.

Saturday evening, the Hon. Vito Marcantonio, member of the United States Congress, will be the recipient at a conference dinner of the committee's 1941 award, which is given annually to that American who contributed most to the defense and extension of the democratic rights of the foreign born during the previous year.

MAR 29 1941

Panel discussions on the Foreign-Born and Labor, Citizenship, Discrimination and Deportation, and Legislation will be held Saturday evening and Sunday morning. A final business session will be held Sunday afternoon.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Congress Urges $500,000,000 Job Fund

FEB 14 1941

Calls on Assembly to Declare Emergency and Add Half Billion to Lehman's Slashes Budget For Social Agencies

(Special to the Daily Worker)

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 13.—At the budget hearing before the Assembly Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee yesterday, the National Negro Congress submitted a recommendation that the State of New York declare an emergency and add $500.000.000 to the Governor's $385,000,000 budget for 1941-42.

The statement of the Negro Congress called attention to the fact that practically none of the Negro unemployed have received jobs in "The conditions of unemployment of the Negroes, Latin American, Spanish, Jewish, Irish, Italian add Germans of Harlem are worse today than they were a year ago."

The statement called for a $25,000,000 increase in the state relief budget, for full state subsidies for low-cost housing, and for more and better schools, the abolition of short-time instruction, and an increase in the education budget.

William H. Gaulden, secretary of the Constitution Committee of the National Negro Congress, presented the statement of the Congress to Abbot Low Moffat, chairman of the Assemoly Ways and Means Committee. Mr Gaulden was listed among the last speakers, so that it was impossible for him to take the floor and also catch the last special train for New York.

Mr. Gaulden said, "To my knowledge, this is the first time in history that a Negro organization has appeared before a budget hearing in Albany to speak in relation to the budget as it affects the Negro people in the State of New York."

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Congress Chapter Is Set Up Here

FEB 13 1941

Residents of the West Side in the 50's and 60's this week organized a West Side Chapter of the Naticnal Negro Congress and launched a campaign for jobs in industry and against Negro discrimination in slum-clearance projects now in progress in the area.

The new chapter has announced that its headquarters at 304 W. 52nd St. will be open every Monday evening to assist local residents in filing applications for the new housing projects and for jobs. and will give information in relief problems.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Negroes Protest Inaugural Fete As 'Jim Crow'

JAN 18 1941

Smith, Colored Lawyer, Chairman of Musicale, Denies the Charge

The National Negro Congress yesterday protested to the Inaugural Committee about a musicale scheduled for Monday at 8 p. m. in the departmental auditorium.

Arranged by the special entertainment committee of the Inaugural Committee, the musicale was branded "Jim Crow" by the protestants who met yesterday in the District Building with Alfons B. Landa, executive assistant to the Inaugural chairman, Joseph Davies.

Doxey A. Wilkerson, chairman of the committee on civic affairs of the Negro Congress, said announcement of the affair which was arranged by Emory B. Smith, "has aroused widespread indignation among Negro citizens." Smith, colored attorney, is chairman of the special entertainment committee. He denied it was a "Jim Crow" musicale, pointing to the fact that Mrs. Roosevelt and members of her family promised to attend.

Smith admonished the group for criticizing the plans for the musicale and urged them to lend their support to the entire Inaugural program.

The group planned another meeting today at 4 p. m. at the Twelfth Street Y. M. C. A. to plan further protest moves.

Smith told the group that members of the colored race have been invited to participate in every event on the program.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Militant Group Rapped As Legislators Seek Bill To Ban Party

MAR 13 1941

HARRISBURG, PA.—The National Negro Congress was denounced as being a "front" for Communistic activities in Pennsylvania by Dr. Joseph M. Matthews, research director for the Dies Committee, last week before the Senate Judiciary Committee of the State Legislature.

Dr. Matthews, who is in favor of the passage of a bill that will remove the Communist Party from the Pennsylvania ballot, also urged that the Walker,Cavalcante Senate Bill be rewritten to strengthen the ban on Communists and other radical groups.

He also urged that ample precautions be provided against use of the measure to eliminate any "innocent" minority political groups.

CLAIMS SOVIET CONTROL

"The Communist Party in Pennsylvania and through the nation is controlled by the OGPU, operating under direct orders from Moscow," was the assertion of Matthews.

In addition, he termed the various organizations that expressed opposition to the Walker Calvacante Bill as "without a doubt following the organization of the Communist Party."

He also named specifically as "fronts," in addition to the National Negro Congress, the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, the Workers Alliance and the National Committee for People's Rights.

MAR 13 1941

"As far as the effectiveness of the Communist Party is concerned, it is underground now and always has been and always will be, no matter whether it is stricken from the ballot in Pennsylvania or not," Dr. Matthews declared.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Congress, CIO Union, Join Against Jim-Crow

MAR 10 1941 MAR 10 1941

Brooklyn Council and Electrical, Radio and Machine Local to Cooperate in Fight for Jobs for Negroes

MAR 10 1941 MAR 10 1941

The United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, Local 1224, and the Brooklyn Council of the National Negro Congress sealed a pact of cooperation yesterday to fight discrimination against Negroes in industry.

On Wednesday, March 5, Mrs. Dorothy K. Funn, executive secretary of the Brooklyn Council of the National Negro Congress, addressed the executive board of Local 1224 at their invitation

Mrs. Funn spoke of the struggles which the Congress has been conducting against discrimination in industry and gave specific instances of how abuses have been corrected with cooperation from unions.

She made the following requests which were unanimously adopted:

1. That hte local open its books to Negro workers and so make it possible to place them in shops where there had been no Negores before.

MAR 10 1941

2. That the executive board allow a speaker from the Congress to address the general membership meeting in order to bring to the membership the program of the Congress and the history of the Negro people in their fight for jobs nad security.

3. That the local cooperate with the National Negro Congress and the American Peace Mobilization in its mass delegation to Sperry Gyroscope Co.

The Congress intends to extend this cooperation to all trade unions in Brooklyn and expects that many Negro girls and young men will be able to secure employment as a result.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

George B. Murphy, Jr. Gets National Negro Congress Post

MAR 15 1941

George B. Murphy, Jr., who recently resigned from his position as director of publicity for the NAACP has been appointed national administrative secretary of the National Negro Congress, officials of the latter organization announced here this week.

Murphy, who commenced work with the Negro Congress March 1, is a graduate of Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa. Since July, 1938, he has been associated with the NAACP working at that organization's national office in New York.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

N.Y. Instrument Firm Drops Color Ban

APR 12 1941

NEW YORK—Following a conference with representatives of the Manhattan and Jamaica Councils of the National Negro Congress on Monday, March 24, officials of the Ford Instrument Company, of Long Island City, a subsidiary of the Brooklyn Sperry Company, have agreed to employ colored workers, William Gaulden, spokesman for the delegation, announced today.

APR 12 1941

The company has given Congress officials a limited number of job applications. Job seekers were urged to write directly to the company for application blanks.

My Day

By Eleanor Roosevelt

WORLD TELEGRAM

I did not tell you yesterday that I had seen Mr. S. N. Behrman's play, The Talley Method, with Ina Claire and Philip Merivale playing in it.

I found it interesting and the acting excellent. I always like both Ina Claire and Mr. Merivale, and Ernst Deutsch seemed to me to play the part of the refugee writer extraordinarily well.

APR 5 1941

As a play, however, I found it a bit confusing because there were so many things in it—each one in itself sufficient for an entire play. The refugee writer alone was a situation which most of us would do well to contemplate for an entire evening. As to the age-old conflict between generations, there were brought up several sides of that question which would have been complete plays in themselves. I was interested but not carried away. I imagine I am just not able to cope with more than one situation at a time!

WORLD TELEGRAM
New York, N.Y.

I was very much impressed yesterday with the work which the Greek Relief Assn. is accomplishing

New York, N.Y.

and hope that we are all going to give them our co-operation.

My son Jimmy had lunch with me and then I went to my meeting with the New York University students. I had not realized it was to be centered about one particular situation, and the only other speaker was Mr. Davis, head of the National Negro Congress, who quite naturally took a less objective view of the situation than I did. Young people are remarkably fair, however, and willing to listen to different points of view and to try to think their way through to the correct solution of problems which come before them.

APR 5 1941

I found the meeting stimulating and interesting, and it left me with a sense of respect for the willingness of the young people of today to try to face the realities of a situation and always to be generous even to those who differ with them.

APR 5 1941

The dinner last night of the Common Council for American Unity was one of the most interesting public dinners I have ever attended, and I was very grateful for the opportunity to listen to so many sincere and gifted people. I think all of them would agree with me, however, that the high point of the evening was Mr. Archibald MacLeish's closing address.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

May Day Parley to Hear Negro Leader

APR 17 1941

Maritime Union Official Expresses Support of City Seamen

APR 17 1941

The United May Day Committee announced yesterday that Hope Stevens, Manhattan chairman of the National Negro Congress, will be one of the principal speakers at the May Day Conference to be held Saturday at Webster Hall, 119 E. 11th St., at 1 P. M.

Another large and militant section of the working class in New York came forward to lend their weight to the conference, when James Gavan, business agent of the National Maritime Union in the New York port, expressed the enthusiasm of seamen for the great annual May Day demonstration.

"Tens of thousands of New Yorkers will remember the seamen in the May Day parade of 1938. We were in our first big strike here then, and we marched with an immense American flag. We asked the marchers and the onlookers to support us in our struggle, and you should have seen the contributions pouring in," said Gavan.

APR 17 1941

In his statement to the United May Day Committee, 80 E. 11th St., Gavan concluded: "I think that May Day is the only day on which labor can really demonstrate its united strength. The NMU owes a good part of its existence to the contributions of the people on May Day, during our first strike. It was their contributions that helped us to come through. This is one thing we won't forget and we'll be out again this May Day to show it."

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Congress Backs Lewis' Contract Fight With Operators; 50,000 Negro Miners Involved

MAR 19 1941

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Fifty thousand Negro miners in eight states covered by wage negotiations now going on in New York between representatives of Mine Workers Union and coal operators in the Appalachian region stand to gain $20,000,000 in wage increases during the coming year, officials of the National Negro Congress declared in wiring John L. Lewis its support of the union's fight for better living standards.

The sentiment of Congress officials was contained in a telegram sent to Lewis, praising the president of the United Mine Workers for his "demand for the abolition of the North-South differentials," as a "further step in the protection of the interests of Negro miners." The text of the telegram follows:

MAR 19 1941

"The National Negro Congress expresses its full support to the demands of the United Mine Workers of America at the Joint Appalachian Wage Conference. Your declarations in defense of the living standards of 350,000 miners, many thousands of whom are Negroes, is inspiring. Your demand for the abolition of North-South differentials is a further step in the protection of the interests of Negro miners and will win for you the continued whole-hearted support of the Negro people."

MAR 19 1941

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Congress Blames Hillman for Jim-Crowism

MAR 19 1941

Letter Accuses Him of Failing to Take 'Any Realistic Moves' to Break Down Discrimination in Defense Industreis; Demands Action

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Responsibility for the dangerous rise in Negro unemployment, while industrialists, particularly airplane manufacturers who are receiving billions of dollars in contracts, continue to extend the discrimination "blockade" against Negroes in defense industry, today was laid squarely at the door of Sidney Hillman, associate director of the Office of Production Management, by the National Negro Congress.

MAR 19 1941

The charge against the OPM official, who with his associate, William Knudsen, is accused of failing to make any realistic moves to force these industrialists to give jobs to Negroes, was contained in a letter sent to Hillman signed by John P. Davis, national secretary of the Congress.

The letter called attention specifically to six manufacturers of defense materials, particularly airplanes and plane parts, who have steadfastly refused to employ Negroes. The firms named included: Glenn L. Martin Aircraft, Middle River, Maryland, with defense contracts totaling more than $322,000,000 dollars to date; Vultee Aircraft more than $95,000,000; R. J. Hoy Co. of New York City, $1,000,000; Sperry Co. of Brooklyn, N. Y., $55,000,000; Allison division of the General Motors Corp., Cleveland, $100,000,000, and the Briggs Manufacturing Co. of Detroit, also holding several million dollars in government contracts.

DEMAND ACTION

MAR 19 1941

"These are but a few examples," the letter said, **"of many more instances of direct and covert refusals by industries enjoying billions of dollars of government contracts, to employ Negroes, or to permit them to have the advantage of training and apprenticeship in schools supported in part by Government funds."**

The letter called upon Hillman to **"exercise the powers which you have, as Co-Director of OPM, for the issuance of an order forbidding any discrimination against Negroes in employment or training in these enterprises where Government funds are used, and establishing machinery which will enforce penalties against any concern which violates this order."**

Congress officials maintained that if Hillman does not have such power, he could "join with us in securing such an order directly from the President of the United States."

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Aimed at the Negro People

MAY 1 1941

• In dismissing Dr. Max Yergan, outstanding Negro leader, the City College authorities tried to hide their reactionary hand from the Negro people and from the general progressive movement which is trying to save the schools. MAY 1 1941

The underhanded pretext used by the college officials was that "new personalities" had to be placed before the students. But every honest person knows that Dr. Yergan's removal is a part of the Rapp-Coudert drive which aims to break down academic standards and replace democratic traditions with those of the fascists and war-whoopers. MAY 1 1941

Dr. Yergan, like most of the faculty members who have been unjustly dismissed from City College, is an authority in his field—the field of Negro culture and history. As director of the International Committee on African Affairs, and as national president of the National Negro Congress, he has identified himself with the struggles of his people, of labor and of peace.

This dismissal is all the more reprehensible since the Negro people suffer most from inadequate educational facilities, and from little or no representation in the school system. More Negro faculty members, not less, is needed in the publicly-financed schools; and it is notorious that Negro children need more and better schools instead of the overcrowded classrooms in the dilapidated buildings of the Harlem community. The Coudert outfit seeks less of both through budget cuts. Dr. Yergan's dismissal is clearly a thrust at the entire Negro people.

Finally, this is an attack upon the stalwart Teachers Union, of which Dr. Yergan is a prominent member. Although the City College authorities try to pretend otherwise, the Negro people have common cause with the organized teachers, labor and progressives in opposing this dismissal and in defeating the destructive Rapp-Coudert campaign.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

City College Removes Yergan, Negro Educator

APR 28 1941

Breakfast Forum Hears Negro Congress Leader Assail Ouster as Attack on Progressive Activity; Speakers Flay Witch-Hunt

Three hundred labor representatives, eductaors and civic and religious leaders at a breakfast forum at the Aldine Club yesterday were incensed at the news that Dr. Max Yergan, leading Negro scholar and president of the National Negro Congress, had been removed as a special lecturer at the Department of History at City College.

Dr. Yergan received a letter from the department, saying that his connection with the college would cease at the end of the present term.

The college wanted to get "new personalities" before the class, said the letter. APR 28 1941

EXPOSES PRETEXT

This pretext, said the Negro scholar in a talk at the forum, was "ridiculously absurd." He said his connected with City College was terminated because he had been "unwise" enough to concern himself with the problems of the community and the conditions under which thousands of children are being educated.

Three hundred persons attended the breakfast forum, which discussed the political tests for teachers set up by the Board of Higher Education and the Rapp-Couder legislative committee's attacks on municipal colleges.

Dr. Yergan charged the Board of Higher Education's attack on the academic freedom of teachers as "opportunism." APR 28 1941

"The attack," said the National Negro Congress leader, "is not really on a numerical minority. The attack threatens loss of liberty and democracy for all."

Clifford T. McAvoy, deputy commissioner of Public Welfare, a former City College staff member said the Instructional Staff Association and the Teachers' Union which were under attack, had two objectives: (1) improvement of working standards; (2) democratization of the faculty.

"There," said McAvoy, "is your subversive plot." APR 28 1941

"The whole basic concept of Americanism as defined in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights is at stake here," he added.

The Rev. Charles C. Webber, executive and field director of the Methodist Federation for Social Service, quoted from the statement of principles of rights of teachers, which 150 clergymen from 21 states, have asked the Board of Higher Education to accept.

"As a responsible citizen," said the statement, "the teacher shares the rights and prerogatives of all citizens of the United States, guaranteed by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and is equally subject to the laws of the land. APR 28 1941

"The point to be emphasized is that the issue is 'Rights,' not 'Beliefs.' Punitive action, because of personal beliefs or legal political activity is inconsistent with the very principles of democracy."

Dr. Margaret Mead, assistant curator of ethnology at the American Museum of National History, and Joseph Kehoe, director of organization of the American Communications Association, were other speakers.

"The teachers are not alone," said Kehoe, "every section of labor has its peculiar type of persecution."

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Dr. Max Yergan makes a point that should be "well taken" by many of our militants who are fighting to get Negroes jobs in war industries. That point is that we are likely to become so engrossed in the campaign to get these jobs that we will forget that the primary concern for Negroes of the United States at this time is that of keeping this country out of Europe's war. MAY 2

The few jobs we are likely to get will in no wise compensate for the loss of lives, liberties, and the chance to earn a livelihood that will come with our entrance into war and the depression that is as sure to follow as night follows day.

We by no means should take it for granted that "we are already in the war." That is what those who want to see this nation in war want us to say and believe. The greatest offensive now being carried on in this country is by Americans and Britishers who are interested in "conditioning" the people for war. It is said the reason the President has not already moved into war is because he is convinced that a majority of the American people are opposed to war.

Our newspapers, our pulpit and Negro citizens generally should rally behind the great leaders and organizations working to keep this nation out of war. We should write to the President and to the members of congress. Congressmen are politicians who fear antagonizing a majority of the people of their districts. They are even fearful of antagonizing strong minorities.

Let the fight for jobs in war industries go on. But remember that those able to give these jobs will not mind trading them to the masses for popular approval of the senseless and wicked plan to get this nation in a foreign war, the outcome of which, whoever wins it, will not compensate for the lives of our young men and the mountain of debt with which we will be burdened for years to come. MAY 2 1941

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

COUNCIL TO DRAFT DePRIEST AS No. 1 NEGRO LOBBYIST

MAR 2 2 1941

Proposed Salary for Former Congressman Is $10,000 a Year

The National Negro Council's executive committee of which Edgar G. Brown is director proposes to "draft" former Congressman Oscar DePriest at $10,000-a-year salary to be the No. 1 lobbyist of twelve million Negro citizens in championing their rights, employment and benefits in the present National Defense program, it was announced, this week.

The Council hopes to raise $100,000 for this purpose.

The council is following a practice and long established policy pursued in Congress by the A. F. of L. whose lobbyist is Colonel Charles I. Stengle, also a former member of Congress.

Program Endorsed by Churches

The National Negro Council's ten-point program to secure full participation for Negro citizens in the federal government's National Defense Program of Army, Navy, Air Corps and private industry has the endorsement of the Bishop's Council of the AME Church, National Baptist Convention, U. S. A. Inc., Episcopal Church, the National Negro Business League and the United Government Employees Inc.

MAR 2 2 1941

Sunday March 30 has been designated by the National Negro Council as National Race and Church Defense Day Rally and every Negro minister has been urged to preach a sermon on that day and make an appeal for a public collection to be forwarded to the Citizens and Southern Bank and Trust Company, Philadelphia.

Ministers, civic leaders, women. clubs and other public spirited leaders of colored communities in all sections of the country are urged to organize and aid in the presentation of these programs on March 30. Correspondence should be addressed to Edgar G. Brown, 1717 Euclid Street, Northwest, director of the National Negro Council, Washington, D. C.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

ffer Depriest $10,000 Salary As Lobbyist

WASHINGTON, D. C.— (ANP) —Oscar Depriest, former congressman from Illinois will be "drafted" as official lobbyist for the National Negro Council at a salary of $10,000 yearly, according to unanimous action taken Thursday at the council's executive committee meeting presided over by Edgar G. Brown.

DePriest was decided upon because his former position as a epresentative from Illinois gives him the privilege of going on the loor of both house and senate to personally discuss any problems which might arise.

MAR 2 1 1941

The council, which has the endorsement of many leaders throughout the nation, is currently endeavoring to raise $100,000 with which to fight for Negro rights in Washington.

MAR 2 1 1941

TO 'THINK IT OVER'

CHICAGO,— (ANP)— When former Congressman Oscar DePriest was told Monday by the Associated Negro Press that he had been drafted as official lobbyist for the National Negro Council, he stated he had not been notified officially but would "think it over." He indicated, however, that he would not object to serving that capacity.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Leaders Need To Reach Understanding

WE have before us a call for "National Negro Day" to be sponsored by the Citizens Coordinating Committee with headquarters in New York, and a call for "National Negro Freedom and Re-consecration Day," sponsored by the National Negro Council, with headquarters in Washington. In addition there is on our desk a "Statement by One Hundred and Sixty Negro Leaders on the Present Position of the Negro People in America." This rather comprehensive bill of particulars is signed by an impressive array of influential members of the race, in all parts of the country, and in all important walks of life. Likewise the two calls above mentioned are signed by a long list of influential people.

MAY 3 1 1941

These important movements indicate that colored Americans are more conscious than ever of a growing insecurity in the American industrsial and political economy. They indicate a conscious effort to remedy the situation.

But the more we have pondered the three documents on our desk the more serious thought we have given to an utterance delivered by Dr. Guy B. Johnson, of the University of North Carolina, in the course of a commencement address at Virginia State College, in June 1939. We have particular reference to the following quotation:

MAY 3 1 1941

"It is no wonder..... that Negro thought today is characterized by a great deal of uncertainty and confusion. There are many leaders but here is no real leadership. There are many philosophies but no outstanding philosophy which claims the devotion of the majority of Negroes... Surely, if the Negro wants to advance his racial status in the next twenty-five years, it is the task of the rising generation to do something to improve the leadership and the strategy which the race shall follow."

Of course, it is too much to expect thirteen million people of any race so heterogenous in religion, politics, education and environment as colored Americans, to unite under one leadership, or to "jell" their philosophies. But it is reasonable to suppose that even so politically, religiously and educationally heterogenous group as Negroes could form a united front for the purpose of grappling with the political and economic problems which generate the disabilities which are causing all of these calls and proclamations sponsored and issued by various groups.

MAY 3 1 1941

It cannot be denied that there is justification for every single one of the movements, coming from various sources. But if the heads of all of these movements could get together and arrive at a plan for having a truly representative, responsible and financially stable group to descend upon Washington and to remain there for an indefinite period it is likely that something constructive and lasting would be accomplished.

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

NATIONAL FREEDOM DAY

The National Negro Council, with headquarters in Washington, D. C., has issued a statement in which it is urging the Negroes of this country to observe as National Negro Freedom Day Sunday, July 27th. Edgar G. Brown, the leader of the movement, has asked the churches and various organizations to collect ten cents from as many people as they can and forward the same to Mr. A. L. Lewis, treasurer, in care of the Citizens and Southern Bank & Trust Company, 19th and South streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It is explained that this money will be used for the maintenance of a lobby at the nation's capitol to look after legislation and acts affecting the welfare of the colored people.

JUN 27 1941

The Negro lobby idea is something new in our fight for our rightful place in the government of a country like this in which we are living. As the Congress of the United States is the nation's governing body, whatever Congress or the President do will affect the future of citizens of the nation. To get things done in Congress, corporations, organizations and interested people have always resorted to the system of the lobby, but we as a group have never had anyone so designated by us to set up an office in Washington with the necessary assistance to act as a watch dog over things affecting us. Therefore, this new plan will go a long way toward helping us to solve our problems as we have never done before.

JUN 27 1941

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

MAY 24 1941

Council Inaugurates National Campaign to Raise $100,000 to Fight for Democracy on Home Front—Seeks President's Order Against Segregation.

SELMA, Ala., May 22—(ANP)—Dr. D. V. Jemison, president of the National Baptist Convention, Inc., and chairman of the National Negro Council celebration, calls upon all Negro ministers of every denomination and particularly state Baptist associations and organizations in all sections of the country to join in the nation-wide observance of the National Negro Freedom Day, Sunday, July 6 in a proclamation issued this week.

"The 12,000,000 Negro citizens of the country North and South must stand up now for their full constitutional rights," the proclamation says. "Our united voices must doubly guarantee to the 100,000 sons of the race now serving in the armed forces to defend democracy and the American way of life that we are not unmindful that equality and justice must be yet won for the colored people on the home front.

"Negro ministers and church organizations can and must lead the way by raising their voices for Negro freedom on Sunday, July 6, in every Negro church of the land. There must be no 'slackers.' We appeal for 10 cents to $1 as a contribution to the public collection on July 6 from every Negro man and woman in the United States.

"The National Negro council's $100,000 campaign must be established and financed in Washington to lobby night and day for laws before Congress and the Administration of them by the officials in the White House and every branch of the Federal Government expending billions of dollars for which Negroes are taxed, as well as other Americans, to wit.

"One-tenth of the million jobs in the Federal service in every capacity must be opened for Negroes in Washington and the field services, North and South.

"Congress must pass laws stopping industry and labor unions for denying Negroes jobs on national defense contracts.

"President Roosevelt must issue an executive order against discrimination, segregation and inequality.

"One hundred cadets must be trained as future officers of the U. S. Army and Navy at the U. S. Military Academy, West Point, and the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis.

"Taxation without representation for the Negroes in the Navy and every other phase of government and American life must stop first at home if democracy is truly to be a blessing for all regardless of race, creed or color.

We urge our Negro fellow citizens to join and contribute—to help to pay the price for liberty, security and our place in the sun. It is your duty as tried and true, loyal and patriotic colored Americans in the all out total national defense effort.

"All funds to be sent to A. L. Lewis, treasurer of the National Negro council and president of the Afro-American Life Insurance company, 19th and South streets, Philadelphia.

"Literature may be obtained by writing National Negro Council 1717 Euclid street, N.W., Washington, D. C."

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

MAY 24 1941

NEGROES BEGIN CAMPAIGN

40,000 Ministers Ask Gifts for Lobby in Washington

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, July 6—Forty thousand Negro ministers joined today in the celebration of National Negro Freedom and Re-Consecration Day throughout the United States. They preached on the subject, "The Christian Negro and His Contribution to Democracy."

The celebration began the campaign of the National Negro Council's "March of a Million Dimes on Washington" to finance a $100,000 National Negro lobby.

The purpose of the lobby, according to Edgar G. Brown, president of the United Government Employes, is "to present in an orderly and constitutional manner before Congress and the Executive departments and agencies of the Federal government the problems and needs of 12,000,000 Negro citizens."

41-1941

NATIONAL NEGRO YOUTH WEEK

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

National Negro Youth Week April 27 To May 3

APR 17 1941

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Under the auspices of the youth division of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, National Negro Youth Week will be celebrated April 27—May 3. A complete program for each of the seven days has been outlined by NAACP Youth Director Madison S. Jones, Jr. There will be youth week in the church; a tag day; dramatic night, social evening, high school speaking day, and a final mass meeting Saturday evening when prominent speakers will address groups in various cities. Prizes in the $500 national essay contest sponsored by the NAACP will be awarded that night.

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla

National Negro Youth Week

MAY 3 1941

That militant organization and unflinching defenders for the unequivocal enforcement of the constitutional rights of all peoples, and especially the darker races, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which held the state meeting of its Oklahoma chapters in Muskogee over the week-end, has proclaimed an observance of National Negro Youth Week, April 27-May 3. This observance, during this most critical stage in the advancement of civilization and international humanitarian principles, is of especial significance and worth. While the dictators of Europe have announced to the world the role which they consider proper and fitting for the young people of their respective countries and those nations which have been shamefully betrayed to play in their schemes of trickery and brigandage, the leadership, forceful, alert, intelligent and informed, of the association decided that if the youth of the majority races were to be completely subjugated in singular obedience to any one allegedly infallible doctrine and tenet, then it was high time that the attention of the entire world, America most certainly, should be focused upon the loyalty and capabilities of Negro youth. It is now, during this observance, that we must and will, reassert and reaffirm our implacable conviction and irrefutable decision that democracy, all-embracing in principle as well as in practice, must be retrieved from the abyss of human degradation into which this cataclysmic era of destruction is rapidly taking it; that we are ready to do our bit for God and country; that we are ready through cooperation to establish a firmer basis on which to meet and settle our just grievances; that we announce to the world and to America that we must and will be heard; that through unity, guarded militancy, intelligence on all important issues and problems affecting the race as well as the nation, we demand a hearing, the same as the youth from any other group.

So this is an appeal to the nation and to you, to grant Negro youth a hearing, and if the hearing is not satisfactory, we beg of you to assist, guide, instruct, and cooperate with the young members of the race to such an extent they can with stoical calm attack the innumerable problems, such as war, starvation, low wages, insufficient education, discrimination in the army and navy, lynching and the threat of physical terror in their own native land, now confronting them.

We are happy to salute Negro youth! Keep fighting and during this week, remember that the tag we wear is a sign of our friendship, support and loyalty.

MAY 3 1941

41-1941

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSOCIATION

National Technical Association To Hold 13th Annual Convention In Tuskegee, August 29th To 31st

AUG 30 1941

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—More than 300 trained technicians, students of technical colleges and employees of trained technicians of the race will participate in the most significant meeting in the history of the National Technical Association when that body convenes at Tuskegee Institute August 29, 30 and 31 for its thirteenth annual convention.

The convention theme is "Trained technicians for National Defense." Richard E. White, president of the N. T. A. has issued a call urging all association members to be present for the opening session, Friday, August 29 at 2:00 p. m. in the William G. Willcox Trades Building.

President F. D. Patterson will join the Tuskegee Chapter of Technicians in extending a warm welcome to the delegates, Negro architectural designers, draftmen, sanitary engineers from all sections of the country will begin pouring into Tuskegee, Thursday, August 28, to see Hilyard Robinson of Washington, D. C., the first Negro to have a contract to build an air field for the United States Government. This 1700 acre two million dollar construction project that Uncle Sam has turned over to Robinson is four and one-half miles from the Tuskegee Campus and is to be the 99th Pursuit squadron base. It will be a high spot of interest during the 25th Anniversary of the American Tennis Association. Robinson is a programmed speaker.

Carpenters, masons, plumbers, and electricians will be interested in the national "get-to-gether" because of the opportunity to hear Calvin McKissack of McKissack and McKissack, Negro construction company, that is turning architect Robinson's blue prints into hangars, mess halls, shops, offices and barracks of wood and steel almost over-night. McKissack has first-hand information for a revealing closeup of Negro technicians good, bad, and indifferent, in the building construction field.

AUG 30 1941

Alexander To Be Present

Young Negro graduates with the signatures on their degrees in civil engineering not yet dry—and many not so young—will seize the opportunity to attend the annual meeting of the National Technicians to see in the flesh a Negro engineer who has done a two million dollar job for a state University, built railroad bridges for the traffic of transcontinental streamlined palace cars, sewerage system for cities whose Negro population is negligible. This Negro of unique achievement in a world of white civil engineers is A. A. Alexander of Des Moines, Iowa. Alexander is another program speaker for the N. T. A. He is contractor for the Tuskegee flying field where the famous Negro college of the Deep South will train elementary military flying cadets for the U. S. Army Flying Corps.

Hitler had made the whole world air-conscious; the circle of air-minded race men and women is widening every day. But even those who have no inclination to leave terra firma for the upper air are proud of the brown boys who are being trained as private and commercial pilots under the Civil Aenonautics Administration. Technicians knowing well the rigid requirements connected with every phase of aeronautics, have long been anxious to see a Negro school own and operate an advance flying school licensed under the U. S. Department of Commerce. At the annual meeting of the National Association of Technicians at Tuskegee, this wish will be gratified. Here the delegates will meet G. L. Washington, director of Mechanical Industries and director of the division of aeronautics at Tuskegee. He is the man who has proved to the South and to the nation that Negro men can train air pilots and that Negro boys can pilot airships.

G. L. Washington said in 1939: "Negroes have a number one opportunity to participate in the march of aviation, not only as civilian pilots, but as expert technicians and as aviation mechanics."

At that time Tuskegee was authorized only for primary air training. In less than two years G. L. Washington has built up the program to include advanced flying and cross country courses and instructors courses in aviation. Washington is scheduled to speak at the convention.

AUG 30 1941

James C. Evans, national secretary, who is on leave from his duties at Head of Vocational Training at West Virginia State College, to work with OPM, announces that the Tuskegee meeting is 'One of the few sessions to be held at one of the great institutions of technical training." .... and therefore offers an opportunity for delegates and visitors to observe the expanding program in civil and military aeronautics, to inspect other important works of Negro technicians and to participate in considering the contribution of the Negro to the program of National Defense."

Expect Prominent Visitors

Others among those expected to attend the national meeting are: John A. Lankford, Washigton, D. C., president elect; Paul E. Johnson, Chicago, Ill., past-president; Julius M. Gardner Washington, treasurer; Robert Weaver, OPM; T. Arnold Hill, NYA; Frank Horne, National Housing; D. A. Williston, sanitary engineer Tuskegee Institute and Washington.

Tours arranged for the visitors include: U. S. Veterans Administration Facility, Tuskegee, Alabama, all Negro personnel, headed by Dr. Eugene H. Dibble, Jr., the U. S. 99th Pursuit Squadron airfield; the Tuskegee Institute contract field for elementary military flying; the Tuskegee Institute airport where Negro youth are being trained under the C. A. A.—this is the field where Charles Anderson, chief cross country flight instructor, was pilot for Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt in her flight over the institute.

AUG 30 1941

National Technician Association visitors will also see classes in airport maintenance directed by O. A. Lloyd Burnside, who holds a certificate from Luscomb School of Aeronautics, Trenton, New Jersey. Burnside was the Negro to attend the special Continuation School for air craft mechanics held at Syracuse, New York early in the summer. Visitors will also see students in the National Defense classes in aero-mechanics learning to tear down and to repair and to assemble air plane engines, wings and other parts of air craft.

Officers of the host chapter are: G. L. Washington, president; J. L. Anderson, vice-president; George Reed, secretary-treasurer; Wilson Allen, regional director Southern region; William C. Curtis chairman program committee and Arthur P. Mack, tours and inspection.

NEGRO ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Crocker Will Direct Organization Society

RICHMOND. — Curtis A. Crocker of Suffolk has been recently appointed to field secretary for the Negro Organization Society of Va., Inc., subject to release from his present position as principal of the Charles City County Training School, and was expected to assume his new post on January 1.

The vacancy was created by a promotion of Welton H. Henderson, present field secretary of the society and part-time administrative assistant in charge of colored activities with the NYA of Virginia.

JAN 1 1941

Mr. Henderson will devote full time to the duties of the latter position.

Mr. Crocker was graduated from Virginia Union University in 1932, with the bachelor of arts degree. He has done graduate work in the summer school of Teachers' College, Columbia University. As an under graduate he was for four years a member of the varsity debating team and an outstanding student.

Teaching Experience

Since graduation he has been engaged in elementary and secondary education both in rural and urban Virginia. For three years he worked in Goochland County as elementary school principal and high school principal respectively.

He then was transferred to South Boston where he served four successful terms as principal of the Booker T. Washington High School.

He more recently served as principal of the Charles City County Training School of Ruthville, Va.

Mr. Crocker is an active member of the Elks, Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity and the Virginia State Teachers' Association. He is married and is the father of a boy and two baby girls.

The society will promote, under Mr. Crocker's direction, an intenseive program of county organization and activity with emphasis on county-wide leagues serving as clearing houses and promotional agents for needed programs in the improvement of the health, homes, farms, schools and business.

Richmond, Va., Times-Dispatch
November 10, 1941

Gains for the Negro

IN ONE of his last public appearances, DR. ROBERT RUSSA MOTON commended the Negro Organization Society, Inc., of Virginia, which has just concluded its twenty-ninth annual convention at Centralia. He said the society, which was organized under his guidance in 1912, had never made a serious mistake. This holds true today, and it probably can be said that the organization has done much more for its members by building in the way that it has, than if it had gone crusading year after year. It has been an asset to the white folk of the State, no less than the black folk, by its educational work that has aided in the building of better homes, better schools, and better farms for its members.

The annual meeting of the society is in a sense interracial, for it invites to its platform white speakers who can discuss subjects of interest to Negroes, as well as leading Negro educators and professional men. Every year there is a progress report from the many community leagues in the State that make up the society's membership, and DR. M. E. DAVIS, who has been its president since 1930, always attaches a great deal of importance to these, and sees that they are given a full hearing.

In a broader field, Negro organizations concerned with measuring the progress of the humanities as they are applied to their people, can now count many gains. There has always been relief for the poor, but never on such a general basis for the Negro poor as since the advent of the public assistance program of the Federal Government and the States; all through the South, the Negro population will be the chief beneficiary of the public housing program; the insistence of the Government upon the employment of a reasonable proportion of skilled Negro labor on defense projects and public works which it sponsors, has led to the establishment of more Negro trade unions (a highly important development for the future of Negro employment); and the principle of equal educational opportunities for Negro students and equal pay for Negro teachers, has been given a ratification by the Supreme Court of the United States which will prove to be more than ceremonious.

It is obvious, then, that within the past decade, tremendous gains have been made for the Negro's right to live in America with more freedom of opportunity, and under a less sharply-etched pattern of discrimination.

41-1941

PAN-HELLENIC COUNCIL

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

CHICAGO ATTORNEY HEADS NAT'L PAN-HELLENIC GROUP

"Democracy in America must be given a chance" was the spirit manifested by the delegates to the thirteenth annual convention of the National Pan-Hellenic council which convened in Chicago Saturday and Sunday at the Good Shepherd Community Center. Resolutions were passed asking President Roosevelt to make democracy work for Negroes in the training camps of the nation and urging him to have an investigation made into the treatment of soldiers in Arkansas.

The convention, which was composed of several presidents of colleges and national leaders in the eight Greek letter member organizations of the council climaxed its two-day session when the delegates endorsed the work of numerous organizations which participated in the fight for full and complete integration of the Negro in the national defense program and sent resolutions and telegrams to the nation's leaders urging further action to this end.

George W. Lawrence Heads Group

The delegates selected Attorney George W. Lawrence of Chicago and arbitrator of the Industrial Commission of Illinois as the chairman of the Pan-Hellenic council to succeed Mrs. Joanna H. Ransom of Xenia, Ohio. Lawrence was vice-chairman of the council and is a former president of the National Bar association, and of the Phi Beta Sigma fraternity. Mrs. Bertha Black a St Louis school teacher and former national head of the Sigma Gamma Rho sorority, was made vice-chairman.

Mrs. Margaret Davis Bowen, principal of Gilbert Academy of New Orleans and past Supreme Basileus of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, was elected treasurer.

Mrs. Ethel Ramos Harris of New Kensington, Pa., head of the Alpha Epsilon chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, was reelected secretary of the council.

Mrs. E. Harrison of Houston Texas, Julius L. Morgan of Chicago and Attorney E. Alexander president of Kent College of Law at Nashville, Tenn., were elected to the executive committee.

Veteran delegates said the convention was the most successful one in the history of the council.

A program calculated to interest every one of the 35,000 fraternity and sorority members under the jurisdiction of the council was drawn up by the body.

An artist circuit will be inaugurated by the Pan-Hellenic council under the direction of Randolph Edmonds of Dillard university, the convention voted. Vocalists and dramatists will be sponsored by the council in the many cities where local councils are located.

ATTY. GEORGE W. LAWRENCE

To the author who has had difficulty in getting his book published the convention brought a ray of hope when it went on record as setting up a Book club whose prime purpose would be to

incorporated in a resolution passed by the convention which provided for a project to hang the pictures of prominent Negroes in public buildings throughout the country.

President Clark Speaks

Saturday evening the Chicago Pan-Hellenic council, headed by Atty. U. S. Keys, sponsored a dinner-session at Morris Eat Shop when President Felton C. Clark of Southern university delivered the principal address. He admonished the leaders of the council to harness the power of 35,000 college men and women to more productive efforts and to the end that humanity may benefit by their work.

Greetings from the eight fraternities and sororities were given to the delegates.

41-1941

PEACE MOVEMENT OF ETHIOPIA

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Back-to-Africa Leader Goes Free On FBI Charges

Mrs. M. M. L. Gordon, president-general of the Peace Movement of Ethiopia and chief advocate of the Back-to-Africa movement, was exonerated of charges of aiding Selective Service registrants to avoid the operation of the law and in dissuading them from filling out their questionnaires, according to information from the office of Federal Commissioner Walker.

Mrs. M. M. L. Gordon

Mrs. Gordon was arrested last month and released on $3,000 bonds when agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation picked her up on accusations that she had told registrants not to sign the questionnaires for the draft.

Agents of the FBI were assigned to the case to complete an investigation of the charges against her. It was thought that the entire Back-to-Africa movement would be under the investigative eye of the G-men.

According to information received from Commissioner Walker's office, where the case terminated, the government desired to drop charges against the defendant on her promises that she would not repeat violations of the Selective Service Act which makes it a crime punishable by $10,000 fine and imprisonment in the Federal penitentiary for any person to urge registrants not to comply with the provisions of that law.

41-1941

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Hold Southern Negro Youth Parley Sunday

Birmingham Meeting to Stress Fight Against Hitlerism, KKK

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Sept. 9.—Youth leaders from seven Southern States will meet in Birmingham Sunday for an conference of the National Council of the Southern Negro Youth Conference which will be held in the new assembly room of the Atlanta Life Insurance Company in the Masonic Temple Building.

SEP 10 1941

All social, religious and civic clubs are invited to send observers.

Citizens are expected to turn out in large numbers on Sunday at 7:30 P. M. at the 16th St. Baptist Church. The occasion will be the Salute to Our Soldiers program, which will give the people of Birmingham their first public opportunity to do honor to the Negro soldiers and sailors.

AGAINST NAZISM

The theme of the conference will be unity of the youth for the defense of America through smashing Hitler abroad and K-K-K-ism at home. The call to the meeting urged the young people to come prepared to find solution to the following question:

"How then, in the light of the changed world situation, in light of the national emergency which faces our country, can we Negro youth conduct our struggle with the maximum effectiveness and popular support for jobs, suffrage rights and equality of all kinds?"

Speakers include H. Councill Trenholm, Negro president of Alabama State Teachers College, Louis Burnham, Negro youth leader of New York City, Pastor Hargrove, Attorney Patterson of the Junior Chamber of Commerce (white) Mr. Hartford Knight of the United Mine Workers; Father Smoots of the Catholic Church, and Princess Massaquoi of Liberia, Africa.

Miami, Fla. Herald
December 7, 1941

It May be News

By ARTHUR GRIFFITH

The Bureau of Sanitary Engineering of the State Board of Health has formulated a restroom sanitary program in line with the wishes of Governor and Mrs. Holland. In order to make the program a success, the request is made that everyone stopping at filling stations be sure to mention to the manager of the station the condition of the restrooms, and should they not comply with the "Florida State Sanitary Code," to notify the State Board of Health Sanitary Bureau.

The Negro Youth Council has started a book campaign for the new Washington Heights public library in the negro section. The council appeals to its white friends to make the campaign a success. Donations may be made to Arlington Sands, financial chairman of the council.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Esther Cooper Sells Buttons

JAN 4 1941

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Members of the Kappa Alpha Psi and Alpha Phi Alpha fraternities and the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority were cooperative in wearing blue and white "abolish-the-poll-tax" buttons along with their frat and sorority pins at the annual conventions held in Kansas City.

Esther Cooper, administrative secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, covered the conventions, speaking and selling buttons.

In her speech to the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity in the Municipal auditorium Saturday, Miss Cooper told of the Geyer Anti-Poll Tax Bill and what the Negro fraternity could do to help win the right to vote especially at a time like this when Negroes are being called upon to support the national defense program.

James E. Scott, grand polemarch of the Kappas, presided at the meeting where Miss Cooper spoke and declared that he would do all he could to see that the Kappas supported the program of the Right To Vote which the Southern Negro Youth Congress is now conducting.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Youth Leader to Speak At Baltimore

FEB 25 1941

BALTIMORE, Md., Feb. 24.—Miss Thelma Dale, vice-chairman of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, will be the principal speaker at a large Baltimore Town Meeting of Youth to be held here Wednesday, Feb. 26, at 8 P. M. in the Metropolitan M. E. Church, 1121 West Lanvale Street.

The youth meeting, sponsored by the Maryland Youth Congress, will have for its theme "The Right to Live and Work."

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WALTER CHIVERS SAYS:

Youth Complains

THERE ARE numerous discontented Negro youth in these United States. There is reason to believe that the number will increase. Adults are not being very grown-up by resorting to name-calling, when the youth movement is mentioned, especially, such as 'radicals' or 'reds'. The term 'red' is, particularly unfortunate if it means that the majority of protesting Negro youth are Communists or have any desire to become Communists. It is true that leaders of the youth movement have been known to keep company at times with people of outstanding left-wing sympathies. But it is very probable that these are the only folk who have shown a willingness to sit still and quiet, lending attentive ear while youth speaks its piece. Youth is surprised and captivated because these grown folk do not lecture at them, making fun of what they feel are justified criticisms and complaints.

CHIVERS

FEB 23 1941

ADVISING DEMOCRACY

The adults of the left-wing political groups are only making use of the knowledge gained by adolescent psychologists. Too many of those adult exponents of the traditional type of democracy are not willing to accept any of the discoveries of scientists about "best ways" of handling adolescent youth. And all of the time the psychologists are simply advising the application of the principles of democracy in the relations between adults and youth.

Negro youth are unfortunate in the sad fact that so many of their matured men of position firmly believe that "children should be seen and not heard."

Another obstacle between Negro youth and adults is the fact that parents do not have access to this "new knowledge."

Only a very limited way has parent-child psychology been included in the adult education programs open to Negro parents. If they only knew the facts parental love would make them more sympathetic towards their restless, thwarted youth. The drastic sacrifices so many of them make to educate their children is proof of their intrest.

CONFLICT OF IDEAS

It is, however, this very educational system which stimulates the restlessness natural in any healthy youth. There is the conflict between what he reads in his textbooks about the "American way of life," what the "man-who-made-good" said about this life in his assembly lecture, the rules and regulations of the schools, public and private, and the world of reality.

You see, many of the male adolescent students spend their summer vacations working in the coldly detached, unethical and individualistic worlds of hotels, night clubs, Pullman cars, 'pleasure' boats and what have you. Three months is a mighty short time in which to adjust the difference between the two ideas of democracy.

FEB 25 19

The results is that the youth by the "glamour" and "baubles" they see in the summer and confused about life.

The writer has worked with these youth for more than twenty years now and has discovered that more and more of them each year are going out into the world half-cynical about what life has to offer.

DEVELOPING CYNICS

After they are graduated from school the disillusionment that faces them makes it only too easy for many of them to become full-grown cynics. The democracy which they experience at work denies them the right to earn a living, the church brands their ef-

Towns, Mrs. A. A. Reid, Miss Frankye Adams, Miss Sadye Wat-

are openly and morally ashamed of their desertion of the party's "full dinner pail" legend, their lodge heads call them upstarts because they want to install business methods in the lodge and their business men tell them that a man does not need to go to school to learn how to operate a grocery business.

The wonder is that so few Negro students have joined the protest movement. It shows that the majority of them are sill hopeful of an anxious to follow the leadership of their elders. They want to be accepted as normal, middle-of-the road American citizens. They will be too, if their educators will lead the way in solving the conflicts named above.

Young men like Herman Long and Ed Strong, president and executive secretary respectively of the Southern Negro Youth Conference do not advocate overthrow of the government, neither do they advocate interracial violence. They are too intelligent for that. The one is a professor in the Methodist Collegea and persuing the doctorial degree in a conservative university, the other is a graduate of Howard University and a Sunday School teacher.

NOT RADICALS

These youths are not "reds", neither are they radicals in the popular sense of the word. They are leading educated "discontents". They are both reasonable, affable, approachable young men. It would be a grand idea if the officers of the Southern Negro Youth Congress and a group of college presidents, ministers, business men and women leaders could sit down to the table together and talk things over.

FEB 23 19

There is a prize of alert, aggressive, courageous, intelligent youth in this group well worth fighting for Negroes need them on the side of the American type of democracy.

Southern News
almanac
Birmingham, Ala.

SNYC TO HOLD NOVEL MEET

Annual Conference To Be In Form Of Youth Legislature Of Ala.

FEB 23 1941

MAR 1 1941

Unlike the usual annual conference of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, the next national conference March 28-30, will take the form of an Alabama Youth Legislature, which was provided for during the last annual conference of the SNYC. The seat of the Youth Legislature Assembly will be in the industrial community of Ensley, Alabama.

The Youth Legislature will be fashioned very much like the general legislature in Montgomery. The difference being that instead of the usual legislature routine the Youth Legislature will discuss and pass on bills that will aid the welfare of the people. Problems concerning civil liberties, police brutality, the right to vote, protection of labor, equal educational facilities, job security, and the continuation of other democratic ideals together with other much needed social legislation, will be considered.

MAR 1 1941

The Alabama Youth Legislature will open Friday evening, March 28 at 7:30 p.m. with a public session and will adjourn Sunday evening, March 30 at 5:30 p.m.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

Southern Negro Youth Congress Sends President Roosevelt Letter Of Protest Against Tenn. Machine

JAN 11 1941

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The attempts of Memphis machine politicians to drive leading Negro citizens out of the city, the interference by police with Negro business establishments, and the threats and slander heaped upon individual Negro citizens by public officials of that city since the last elections were the subject of an open letter to President Roosevelt from the Southern Negro Youth Congress, asking that the Federal Government intervene to protect the lives and property of Negro residents.

JAN 11 1941

The letter, signed by Edward Strong, Congress secretary, referred to Police Commissioner Boyle of Memphis who recently declared, "This is a white man's country, and always will be, and any Negro who doesn't agree to this better move on". This statement, Mr. Strong declared, was an incitement to violence against the Negroes of the city. Mr. Strong indicated that behind the situation in Memphis was the attempt to force Negroes to vote for only those candidates endorsed by the machine of "Boss" Ed Crump.

The letter said, in part: "There is documentary evidence available to. . . . warrant a Federal investigation of the Crump machine. There is being established in Tennessee an American Fascist stronghold with its race hatreds, enmity to labor, and suppression of freedom of speech and press."

The full text of the letter follows:

December 28, 1940

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

JAN 11 1941

"Dear Mr. President:

"For the last two months in the city of Memphis, Tennessee, American citizens have been daily harassed by city police, stopped and searched in the streets, publicly slandered, and threatened with their very lives because they tried to exercise the common right of selecting the political leaders of their choice.

"There is a concerted drive upon the part of Mayor Overton Gridler of Memphis, Police Commissioner Boyle, and "Boss" Ed Crump, aided by the police department and part of the metropolitan press to force Negro leaders out of business and out of town and to intimidate the entire Negro population by wholesale arrests every day and by the placing of heavy police guards in peaceful Negro neighborhoods. Memphis residents suffering under the Crump machine domination cannot protest for they know that speaking out would mean the end of their economic security and possibly the bloodshed that has been threatened in the press and in letters received by leading citizens. Nineteen prominent Negroes have already been individually pointed out by the machine to be held responsible for anything that may occur.

JAN 11 1941

"The attempts on the part of Memphis officials to provoke racial unrest and violence are not accidental or passing occurrence. Attention has previously been directed to the workings of a corrupt core of politicians in the city by the excessive police brutality, beating of labor organizers, and the manipulation of elections. These are the means by which the same politicians have maintained themselves in power for over two decades. The current campaign against Negroes and Negro leaders is only a part of the warfare constantly waged by the "machine" against the fundamental rights of the people. Domination of the Crump machine means a ban on freedom of speech and of the press. It means the suppression of the right of laborers to organize freely in unions of their own choice and the driving of labor organizers out of the city by lawless gangs under the very eyes of the police.

JAN 11 1941

"There is documentary evidence available to prove that there is sufficient violation of Constitutional rights in Memphis to warrant a Federal investigation of the Crump machine. There is being established in Tennessee a little dictatorship, the beginning of an American fascist stronghold within our very borders, with its race hatreds, enmity to labor, and suppression of civil liberties.

"We feel that in the defense of its citizens and in defense of fundamental American principles, the Federal Government should intervene in Memphis to halt the corrupt workings of the Crump machine and its associates and, at this time especially, to preserve the threatened security in life and work of its Negro population."

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

To Consider Discrimination

MAR 29 1941 MAR 28 1941

Above are shown three key youth leaders of the Southern Negro Youth Congress planning for the "Alabama Youth Legislature" which convenes in Ensley, Alabama, March 28 to 30. The "Youth Legislature" will consider discrimination iln the government armament program against Negro youth and the ill treatment of Negro conscripts in the camps. Left to right: Annie Mae Echols, Robert Randolph Wilson and Ethel Lee Goodman, all of Birmingham.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

Southern Youth Congress Issues Stirring Protest

APR 25 1941

Charges Army Head Attempts To Cover Up Crime; Full Federal Probe Is Demanded

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Private Felix Hall, a volunteer, who was in camp at Fort Benning Ga., was lynched and by white soldiers of that vicinity, it is charged by the Southern Negro Youth Congress in a letter to President Roosevelt, demanding a federal investigation of the colored soldiers' death.

The letter to President Roosevelt was written by Dr. James E. Jackson, vice president of the Youth organization. In his letter, Dr. Jackson wrote the President Roosevelt as follows:

APR 25 1941

"The conscience of the nation has been shocked by the lynching of a young Negro volunteer on the Army reservation at Fort Benning, Ga. After being missed for several weeks the decomposed body of Private Felix Hall, a 19-year old Negro volunteer of Millbrook, Ala., was discovered swinging from a tree, with his arms tied behind him and his legs bound together. The most recent statement issued by Provost Marshall Herbert B. Laux, in which he states that 'death might have resulted from hanging or SUICIDE, indicates a bland attempt on the part of army authorities to close the case by shifting the blame onto the corpse of the victim."

"We demand a full investigation of the crime with immediate Court Martial of those officers directly responsible for the protection of and safety of the soldiers at Ft. Benning. We demand the immediate arrest of those responsible for the death of Pvt. Hall and call for the death penalty for the lynchers of the Negro volunteer.

The letter closes with a charge that the lynching of the soldier is a consequence of the Jim Crow policy of the U. S. Army, and says that it should induce the President to banish Jim Crowism in all of its forms from all of the branches of the armed forces and also in National Defense industries.

The newspapers of the South gave only a meager and garbled account of the peculiar circumstances surrounding the death of the Alabama soldier, in keeping with their policy of suppressing news about a lynching in the South to halt the demand for a Federal Anti-Lynching Law.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Southern Youths Pledge All-Out Fascist Fight

OCT 4 1941

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Oct. 2—At the Salute to Our Soldiers Program sponsored by the Southern Negro Youth Congress last Sunday in Birmingham, tribute was paid to the Negro soldiers who have been selected to aid in the defense of America. Louis E. Burnham, newly-elected organizational secretary of the SNYC, in the main address of the evening declared, "The struggle against fascism is a struggle which Negro youth understands and supports. The splendid morale which Negro soldiers have exhibited in the face of continued abuse is a token of their resolve to contribute to the fullest to the defeat of Hitlerism. They merely contend that an all-out effort to defend democracy against Hitlerism requires an all-out practice of democracy at home."

Princess Fatima Massaquio from Sierra Leone, addressing the audience said, "The African peoples support all-out aid to Great Britain and the Soviet Union, because they know that a Hitler victory would mean complete suppression and degradation for the colonial peoples."

BRAGG SOLDIER SPEAKS

Private Arthur Price from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, told the audience what they could do in the interest of the Negro soldier. He felt that the Army Welfare Program which is being sponsored by the Southern Negro Youth Congress would be enthusiastically welcomed by his buddies. This program which is designed to demonstrate the solidarity which the Negro youth of the South feels with the boys who are serving their country, will be highlighted by Army Welfare Week. During the week of October 13-19, there will be a drive to send gifts and other tokens of friendship to the army camps.

Other speakers at the meeting included T. Love from Alabama State Teacher's College; Hartford Knight, representing the United Mine Workers; J. J. Green, president of the N. A. A. C. P.; Dr. James Jackson; Alton Laurence, representative of Labor's Non-Partisan League and Pastor Hargrove. Charles Anderson, editor of Newspic, was chairman of the meeting.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

BIRMINGHAM STARTS ARMY WELFARE DRIVE

OCT 11 1941

BIRMINGHAM, Oct. 9—(ANP)—Birmingham took the lead in initiating an army welfare program at a meeting of some of the leading citizens of the community Friday evening, at the 8th Avenue Y. W. C. A. The body, which is called the Citizens Committee for Army Welfare, is making plans to aid the Negro soldier in the army. The Rev. J. C. Perry, pastor of St. Marks Episcopal church in Birmingham, was elected temporary chairman.

Pointing out that the young men in the army camps often lack simple things like shaving cream, soap and cigarets, Louis Burnham, organizational secretary of the Southern Negro Youth congress, suggested that the committee plan to start a collection drive for gifts for the soldiers. Plans were made at the meeting to highlight the campaign for the selectees by army welfare week to take place the week of Octobere 12-18. At that time the collection of gifts will reach its height, and there will be held in the city, mass meetings and entertainments for the soldier.

It is planned that this program for the welfare of the boys in the army will be taken up by other key cities in the south, especially in those cities near army camps.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Youth Congress Sponsors Visit Troops In Camp

NOV 8 1941

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Nov. 6—Led by Louis E. Burnham, organizational secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, the citizens' committee for Army Welfare, a group initiated by the Youth Congress for the purpose of strengthening the morale of Negro soldiers in Army camps throughout the South, visited Fort McClellan at Anniston, Ala., last week.

Included in the visiting group were: Miss Dura Rice, executive secretary of the Eighth Avenue YWCA; Miss Sallye Belle, socially prominent school teacher; Miss Mildred McAdory of the Birmingham Youth Federation; Wallace Colvin of Local 6256, United Mine Workers of America, Robt. Thomas of Ensley, Ala., and Mrs. Dorothy Burnham of the Youth Congress national office.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Pan-American Youth Alarmed at Nazi Peril

'No Time to Lose,' Says U. S. Visitor After Parley Revelations

By Louise Mitchell

Hitler has already opened a second front in the Americas through his agents in South America, his colonization of Germans in Brazil and the openly treasonable activities of the Lindberghs, Wheelers and Hues right in the United States, John Whittier Darr, Jr., said yesterday on his return from the Pan-American Youth Conference held in Mexico last week.

"If we American delegates learned anything at the Conference, it was the alarming extent to which the Nazis succeeded in infiltrating the Latin American countries. We were shocked right out of our boots by stories of Nazi activity from the South American delegates," said Darr, member of National Intercollegiate Christian Council. The young man attended the conference unofficially.

The realization that there is no time to lose in the fight against Hitlerism, caused the Conference to call for immediate conscription in all Latin American countries, for the strengthening of national armies, for increased production of war materials and for the national unity of youth in each country against Hitlerism, Darr explained.

"The American youth movement is still too far behind the times," he said. "We will have to be more alert to the perils facing the entire hemisphere."

LATIN AMERICAN UNITY

Revealing that the fascists were playing up to some of the just grievances Latin Americans on the matter of Yankee Imperialism, Darr pointed out that none of the delegates from Argentine, Salvadore, Mexico, Cuba and Panama, however would be sidetracked in their determination to wipe out the Nazi scourge.

"They all understand that the destruction of world reaction will help defeat reaction at home and the sooner it is done, the quicker the fruits of democracy will flourish in their own countries," the young leader explained.

The Conference attended by 35 official and unofficial delegates from Canada, the United States, Mexico and South American countries pledged to urge their respective governments to back Churchill with arms and men so that a second front may be opened in Europe.

URGE BREAK WITH NAZIS

Delegates were instructed to demand that their governments break [illegible] Germany and its puppets and cooperate fully with Great Britain, the Soviet Union and China.

A Continuations Committee was set up with main offices in the United States and local offices in all countries to carry out the work of the Conference which has as its goal an International Youth Conference to be attended by British, Soviet, Chinese, American and South American youth. Christmas Youth Week of Sacrifice was designated as a time for Pan-American youth to contribute to the anti-fascist struggle.

Darr praised the heroism of many of the South American delegates, pointing out that the delegate from Salvador would be unable to return home because of his presence at the Conference.

"Among other things, the Conference planned to press for exchanges of military delegations so as to help improve the army standards of many of the South American countries. We also realized the need to develop leadership among the women. It is they who will be left to carry on the work when the men are in the army," Darr said.

The American delegation consisted of four persons: Frances Williams, executive secretary of the American Youth Congress; Della Davis, Industrial Division of the YWCA, who together with Esther Cooper, of the Southern Negro Youth Congress attended unofficially.

In summing up his Mexican experience, Darr said, "We all learned that there is a lot to be done in a terrible hurry!"

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ACTION CONDEMNS FIFTH COLUMNIST WHO EXPLOIT RACE

DEC 20 1941

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 18—Declaring that "today, more than ever before, our national integrity and security depend upon making the South, and Negro youth of the South, assets of democracy," the Southern Youth Congress placed itself on record in full support of the government's war effort. The pledge, contained in identical letters to President Roosevelt and Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, vice-chairman of the Office of Civilian Defense, expressed the readiness of Negro youth to go "all out" for national unity and defense, and condemned the activities of "those Fifth Columnists who would exploit the real grievances of Negro Americans in order to alienate their sympathies from America with such lies as 'Japan represents the destinies of the colored peoples of the world'."

SEEKS CHANCE TO SERVE COUNTRY

The letter pointed out that more than a month ago the Youth Congress sounded a call to Negro youth, entitled, "Freedom's Children, To Arms!, urging them to rally to the colors with their energies, talents, and, if need be, their lives.

It continued: "We pledge allegiance to the flag, Mr. President. We have kept our powder dry. We march willingly with all America to our battle stations—on the home front or across the seas. While we demand the right to blast the enemy with big navy guns, we will fire away with our muskets or any other weapon that is placed in our hands. If you find us contending for our rights and opportunities at this hour, know that our struggle is for a larger chance to serve our country. Our struggle for rights is but a contest against those unpatriotic elements who imperil our national unity by denying the Negro youth the right to give their talents to the service of their country in all branches of the armed forces and the war industries."

DEC 20 1941

The communication was signed by Esther V. Cooper and Louis E. Burnham, administrative secretary and organizational secretary, respectively, of the Southern Negro Youth Congress.

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla

Join the "March of Southern Negro Youth"

The third issue of Cavalcade lies on our desk. It is the official organ of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, and published at Birmingham, Alabama. It carries on its mast head this slogan, "The March of the Southern Negro Youth."

The significance and importance of this little journal is such the Black Dispatch wishes now to place in its editorial columns the street address of the publication and suggest that every Negro youth who can possibly secure fifty cents send for a year's subscription. Address your letter to Cavalcade, 624 Masonic Temple Building, Birmingham, Alabama.

Negro youth of today needs regeneration, and the group of young people, connected with the Southern Youth Congress, are developing a movement having sincerity of purpose and clarity of vision regarding American and world problems.

This effort for social betterment of Negroes has been launched down in the heart of the South where real and actual race problems are present. These young people have dedicated their lives to the cause of justice and equality. Here is the platform of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, as it appears on the editorial page of "Cavalcade":

We are the Negro youth of the South. This is our voice! Hear us!

We demand our rights, loud and clear.

We, the prey of lynchers' mobs demand that lynching be outlawed and our civil rights defended.

We, the disfranchised, shall win the ballot. We make demands for equality and justice in the institutions of American democratic government. We re-echo the call of our forebears to reject taxation without representation.

We work for and shall gain greater and equal educational opportunities. We affirm our right to work, with jobs for all, and wages that will insure living standards of health and comfort.

We proclaim our right to own the land we till we shall work and fight to restore its fertility and make it ours.

We strive to lift our culture to new and nobler heights.

We aspire to peace among men and oppression toward none. We American Negro youth call upon our Southern white young brothers to join hands with us . . . Together, we shall win for America the stature of a democracy not false and accursed, but real and blessed. To this end we offer ourselves, our loyalty, and the best that is in us.

And unlike many gatherings or organization of Negro groups, the leadership of the Southern Negro Youth Congress is attempting to do something about the problems in the South common to white and black alike. With wise decision they have discovered nothing can be accomplished alone and that they must join with the white working class in the struggle for actual democracy.

These young people heading the Southern Negro Youth Congress have launched an attack upon the poll tax, Jim Crow, labor problems, lynching and discrimination in the American army. On every citizenship battle front they wage continuous battle. Cavalcade is doing more towards orienting Negro youth towards the paths of constructive thinking than any other Southern journal.

This writer has for the past few years had much contact with youth organizations both black and white, and we want to say now that it has been a dismal picture to observe the indifference and, many times ignorance exhibited on the part of Negro youth regarding sectional, national and world problems. In too many instances it appears a few college youth have considered youth movements on the level with college "frats" and ignore the entry of various stratums of Negro youth, and their problems.

As a matter of fact Negroes generally develop "ruling class" complexes more rapidly than working class white people. The educated and well financed Negro ignores the middle class view and immediately adopts the point of view of rich white people.

This is a false philosophy and notion. The salvation of the Negro in America rests with working class white people. The poll tax, housing, malnutrition, farm tenantry, war, peace, are all common problems never to be solved except through union of all working class groups.

Negroes cannot expect working class whites to develop interest in their problems unless Negroes take enlightened and active interest in the problems of the white working class. The Negroes in the Southern Negro Youth Congress are taking this view and that is why it is the "North Star" for all working class groups in America.

All readers of the Black Dispatch who read these lines should see to it that Cavalcade comes into their homes. One column in the current issue of Cavalcade, "Youth Around the World," will awaken your son, or your daughter to the responsible tasks of joining in the fight for the things that ought to be. Thought precedes action. Cavalcade will start your children to thinking right.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Southern Negro Women Pledge Fight on Hitlerism

1,000 Delegates to Methodist Episcopal Parley Hear Plea for End to Jim Crow in Army and in Defense Industries

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 25.—Speaking before 1,000 delegates to the Colored Women's Methodist Episcopal Convention in Birmingham on Friday, Aug. 22, Miss Esther Cooper, administrative secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress asked them to join with her and other women in the country to do their part in smashing Hitlerism abroad and at home.

"We women," she said, "hate Hitlerism and know what a Nazi victory would mean to the women of the world and therefore we support all aid to Great Britain and the Soviet Union. But we realize at the same time that national defense is based upon democracy for all the people and that the 15,000,000 Negro people in the United States must be given all the rights guaranteed in the Constitution if they are to utilize all their talents in the defense of America and the defeat of Hitler.

"Our husbands, our sons, our brothers drafted into the army to train for the defense of our country have been subject to discrimination, the worst type of brutality by the military police, jim-crowism and other Hitler-like acts," she continued. "We must work to see that these practices end, that there are no more Fort Bragg incidents and that we who are not in the armed forces are given job opportunities, full civil liberties, and suffrage rights."

Mrs. R. Thompson Hollis, president of the Women's Connectional Council of the CME Church pointed out that "We Negro women will not stop fighting for the rights of the Negro people. We won't stop until Christianity becomes a living reality in America and in the world."

The conference agreed to send a petition to President Roosevelt protesting the treatment of Negro soldiers in the armed forces, and asking that such changes be made to insure a democratic army. Young women members of the Southern Negro Youth Congress distributed "Smash Hitler" buttons to the delegates who came from nearly every state in the Union.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Youths Plead For Action To Insure Rights

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 28—Declaring that "the defense of our country in 1941 requires the wiping out of all remaining prohibitions upon the use of the Negro's talents," the Southern Negro Youth Congress is circulating a petition addressed to President Roosevelt calling for the prompt government agencies to take action to insure job opportunities, full civic liberties, suffrage rights, and an end of jim-crow practices in the armed forces as a defense measure and in the interest of democracy for the Negro people.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

GET DEMOCRACY IN U. S., FIRST, SNYC TELLS ROOSEVELT

AUG 2 9 1941

Mine Workers, YWCA and Others Sign Youth Group's Petition to President

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 28—Declaring that "the defense of our country in 1941 requires the wiping out of all remaining prohibitions upon the use of the Negro's talents," even as "the Proclamation of Emancipation was a necessary war measure in 1863," the Southern Negro Youth Congress is circulating a petition addressed to President Roosevelt calling for the proper government agencies to take action to insure job opportunities, full civil liberties, suffrage rights, and an end of jim-crow practices in the armed forces as a defense measure and in the interest of democracy for the Negro people.

Already hundreds of signatures have been obtained from leaders and members of the YWCA, UMCA, CME Women and various social and religious groups. The petition follows in full:

"Mr. President: 9,000,000 patriotic Negro people eager to make their full contribution to the defense of our country and the defeat of Hitler are still denied this privilege by virtue of a Hitler-like system of suppression and discrimination.....Their continued disfranchisement through the operation of the poll tax, and other undemocratic practices makes a mockery of their citizenship.....Their desire to serve in all branches of the armed forces of their native land is denied them.....American defense industries still indulges itself the luxury of prejudicial policies which leave the hands of Negro youth idle in this hour of emergency.....The specter of the lynch rope still casts its evil shadow over their heads and blunts their patriotic ardor. The Proclamation of Emancipation was a necessary war measure in 1863; the defense of our country in 1941 requires the wiping out of all remaining prohibtions upon the use of the Negro's talents.....In the spirit of Lincoln and in the interest of America's national security WE PETITION YOU to take decisive action to insure job opportunities, full civil liberties, and suffrage rights to the Negro people of the South and the whole country." Persons desiring petitions each of which has space for 25 signatures are asked to write the Southern Negro Youth Congress at 514 Masonic Temple Biulding in Birmingham, Ala.

AUG 29 1941

The Daily Worker
New York. N. Y.

Southern Negro Youth Act On Plans to Crush Hitler

SEP 2 3 1941

Conference Hears Call for Military Defeat of Fascist Powers

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Sept. 22.—A program of activity to assist in the military defeat of Hitler was the main consideration of the National Council meeting of the Southern Negro Youth Congress which took place here Sunday.

Miss Esther Cooper, who opened the conference, voiced the unanimous sentiment of the 50 delegates who attended when she identified **"every blow against Hitler as a blow to discrimination, Jim Crowism, lynching and violence in the South."**

SEP 28 1941

"In this momentous period of world history," said Miss Cooper, "there is a binding solidarity existing between the youth of the South and all democracy loving peoples. We have always been opposed to Fascism in whatever form it occurs. Hitlerism and its Aryan theories of racial superiority gives comfort and courage to KKK-ism everywhere. Today it is clear that only through the military defeat of Hitler can be achieved the conditions for crushing Fascism and world reaction at its roots."

Louis E. Burnham, newly elected organizational secretary of the SNYC, led the discussion on the program of anti-Hitler activity for the months to come and stressed the Congress' campaign to obtain increased recreational facilities for the army camps.

SEP 23 1941

Mr. Burnham last week protested to the United Service Organizations the failure of some Southern communities, such as Jefferson County, Ala., to include outstanding Negro citizens as members of the various boards and committees of the organization. The protest was contained in a letter to the USO which also expressed satisfaction that the first recreational center for Negro soldiers has been established at Fayetteville, North Carolina.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Youth Leaders To Meet Today In Birmingham

Hitler, KKK To Be Targets Of Discussions

SEP 14 1941

BIRMINGHAM—(ANP)— Youth leaders from seven southern states will meet in Birmingham today for an all day conference of the national council of the SYNC which will be held in the new assembly room of the Atlanta Life Insurance Company in the Masonic Temple building. All social, religious, and civic clubs are invited to send observers.

The theme of the conference will be "unity of the youth for the defense of America through the smashing of Hitler abroad and K-K-K-ism at home." The call to the meeting urges the young people to come prepared to offer a solution to the following question:

SEP 14 1941

"How can we, in the light of the changed world situation, in light of the national emergency which faces our country, can we Negro youth conduct our struggle with the maximum effectiveness and popular support, for jobs, suffrage rights and equality of all kinds?"

The delegates will honor visiting speakers with a luncheon at the Little Savoy cafeteria. They will also attend the 16th Street Baptis Church Army Welfare meeting in a body.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Birmingham Prepares For Youth Meet

OCT 11 1941

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — In Birmingham young people are making preparations to attend the National Conference of Negro Youth which meets in Washington, D. C., November 14, 15, and 16.

At the meeting of its national council in September, the Southern Negro Youth Congress voted to support the conference and regarded this meeting as "a splendid opportunity to bring about the complete unity of thought and action which Negro youth seek in conducting their struggle against fascism at home and abroad."

41-1941
Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Chapter of Youth Congress Formed At Tuskegee

JAN 18 1941

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—There was recently organized on the campus of Tuskegee Institute, a college chapter of the Southern Negro Youth Congress. This movement on the part of a group of student leaders is part of the national program of the Youth Congress to set up chapters of the organization on the various college campuses.

The Executive Committee of the Southern Negro Youth Congress in its several Fall conferences stressed the importance of establishing councils on all Negro College campuses in the South. These meetings of the Executive Committee have been attended by representatives from several of the outstanding colleges of the South including Dillard University, Fisk University, Tenessee State, Miles Memorial College and Tuskegee Institute.

Dr. Patterson is Chairman

At Tuskegee Institute and working for the support of the SNYC, is the chairman of its Adult Advisory Board, Dr. F. D. Patterson. Edward Strong, executive secretary of the Congress, stated that "Tuskegee's rapid response in setting up a council is very commendable and should serve as an impetus for other colleges that have indicated an interest in the program sponsored by the SNYC."

Present at the organization of the Tuskegee chapter was Arthur G. Price, of Nashville, Tenn. Mr. Price is a member of the executive committee of the SNYC and vice-chairman of the League of Young Southerners. Speaking briefly to the group, Mr. Price stated that it was his feeling that there is a necessity of organizing Negro Youth in the South to cooperate around a program which includes as its "main plang a battle to free the ballot for the ten million disfranchised Americans in the South who are excluded from participation in the government by the poll tax and other restrictions."

"Within this problem," he stated, "we can find the roots of many others." As an example he pointed out "A voteless people cannot demand the passage of effective legislation, nor voice strongly their opposition to discrimination in job opportunities for the Negro in defense industries or in the various branches of the armed forces."

The sponsors of the Tuskegee Chapter are: Charles G. Gomillion and T. Rupert Broady of the Social Science faculty. Mr. Broady is also director of publication for the national organization. The officers of the local chapter are: Wilbur Hines, chairman; Miss Louise Sims, vice-chairman; Miss Blanche Jackson, secretary; Miss Doris Duncan, treasurer, and Charles James Land, publicity director.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

YOUTH CONGRESS SEEKS RELIEF OF THE PRESIDENT

JAN 4 1941

Says Machine Politicians Use Police to Drive Negro Leaders Out

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—The attempts of Memphis machine politicians to drive leading Negro citizens out of the city, the interference by police with Negro business establishments, and the threats and slander heaped upon individual Negro citizens by public officials of that city since the last election were the subject of an open letter to President Roosevelt from the Southern Negro Youth Congress, asking that the Federal Government intervene to protect the lives and property of Negro residents.

The letter, signed by Edward Strong, Congress secretary, referred to Police Commissioner Boyle of Memphis who recently declared, "This is a white man's country, and always will be, and any Negro who doesn't agree to this better move on."

This statement, Mr. Strong declared, was an incitement to violence against the Negroes of the city. Mr. Strong indicated that behind the situation in Memphis was the attempt to force Negroes to vote only those candidates endorsed by the machine of "Boss" Ed Crump.

JAN 4 1941

May Start Federal Probe

The letter said, in part: "There is documentary evidence available to . . . warrant a Federal investigation of the Crump machine. There is being established in Tennessee an American Fascist stronghold with its race hatreds, enmity to labor, and suppression of freedom of speech and press."

The full text of the letter follows:

December 28, 1940

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.
Dear Mr. President:

For the last two months in the city of Memphis, Tennessee American citizens have been daily harrassed by city police, stopped and searched in the streets, publicly slandered, and threatened with their very lives because they tried to exercise the common right of selecting the political leaders of their choice.

JAN 4 1941

There is a concerted drive upon the part of Mayor Chandler of Memphis, Police Commissioner Boyle, and "Boss" Ed Crump, aided by the police department and part of the metropolitan press to force Negro leaders out of business and out of town, to intimidate the entire Negro population by wholesale arrests every day and by the placing of heavy police guards in peaceful Negro neighborhoods. Memphis residents suffering under the Crump machine domination cannot protest for they know that speaking out would mean the end of their economic security and possibly the bloodshed that has been threatened in the press and in letters received by leading citizens. Nineteen prominent Negroes have already been individually pointed out by the machine to be held responsible for anything that may occur.

The attempts on the part of Memphis officials to provoke racial unrest and violence are not accidental or passing occurrence. Attention has previously been directed to the workings of a corrupt core of politicians in the city by the excessive police brutality, beating of labor organizers, and the manipulatiton of elections. These are the means by which the same politicians have maintained themselves in power for over two decades.

JAN 4 1941

The current campaign against Negroes and Negro leaders is only a part of the warfare constantly waged by the "machine" against the fundamental rights of the people. The domination of the Crump machine means a ban to freedom of speech and of the press. It means the suppression of the right of laborers to organize freely in unions of their own choice, and the driving of labor organizers out of the city by lawless gangs under the very eyes of the police.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Buys Poll Tax Button

JAN 10 1941

MISS ESTHER VICTORIA COOPER, left, of Arlington, Va., who is working in Birmingham as administrative secretary of the Southern Negro Youth conference, is shown pinning an anti-poll tax button on MISS NORMA E. BOYD, right of Washington, D. C., who is director of the Non-Partisan council of Public Affairs, a project of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.—Photo by Whibby, Chicago.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Youth Congress Chapter Set Up At Tuskegee

JAN 10 1941

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JAN 10 1941

The executive committee of the Southern Negro Youth Congress in its several fall conferences stressed the importance of establishing councils on all Negro college campuses in the South. These meetings of the executive committee have been attended by representatives from several of the outstanding colleges of the South including Dillard university, Fisk university, Tennessee State, Miles Memorial college and Tuskegee institute.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

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At Tuskegee Institute and working diligently for the support of the SNYC, is the chairman of its adult advisory board, Dr. F. D. Patterson. Edward Strong, executive secretary of the Congress, stated that "Tuskegee's rapid response in setting up a council is very commendable and should serve as an impetus for other colleges that have indicated an interest in the program sponsored by the SNYC."

JAN 11 1941

News
Birmingham, Ala.
Taken from the Column: What NEGROES ARE DOING

With the purpose of directing public attention to the fact that more than 10,000,000 eligible American citizens are voteless, the Southern Negro Youth Congress, with headquarters here in Birmingham, sent out an appeal last week for the observance of the week of May 11-17 as national "Abolish Poll Tax" Week.

MAR 2 - 1941

In announcing plans for the observance, Edward E. Strong, executive secretary of the youth group, pointed out that the week should receive wide support from civic organizations, labor, schools and churches, both in the North and in the South.

The purpose of the observance as announced by Southern Negro Youth Congress officers are first to mobilize sentiment against poll tax and denying Negroes the vote. Secondly, to arouse a national demand for the passage of the Geyer anti-poll tax bill. Thirdly, to raise funds and obtain wider support for the campaign to win the right to vote in the Southern states.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

NEGRO LEADER FLAYS WAR BILL

(Special to The Daily Worker)

MAR 4 1941

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., March 3.—Declaring the unwavering support of the Negro people as a whole to the fight against the Lend-Lease bill and the whole Roosevelt war program, Edward E. Strong, executive secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress today scored Negro leaders who have joined the "band-wagon seeking 'all out aid to Great Britain."

MAR 4 1941

Of these persons Mr. Strong, in a statement issued today, said, "they are certainly not speaking either in the interests of the 500,000,000 British colonials nor in the interest of Negroes in America. Therefore, the Negro people should let Washington know that we are against the further involvement of our country in the European holocaust and that we want the Lend-Lease Bill defeated."

Southern News
Almanac
Birmingham, Ala.

Youth Meet In Birmingham

National Council Of SYNC Adopts Strong Program

MAR 20 1941

Forty delegates participated in the National Council Meeting, of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, March 16, in Birmingham.)

Federations represented included New Orleans, Tuskegee, Atlanta, Flat Top, Ala., and rural Louisiana. Adults who participated in the meeting included Mrs. H. C. Bryant of the National Board of the YWCA, and Dr. Charles G. Gomillion, Professor at Tuskegee Institute. Clinton Clark, organizer for the Louisiana Farmers' Union, reported on the work being done by the youth federations in rural Louisiana and Alabama. He presented beautiful quilts made by rural youth to be sold in the North for the continuation of rural work.

The following proposals were adopted: MAR 20 1941

To vigorously promote national anti-poll tax week; that a delegation visit the jailed Scottsboro boys now in the tenth year of their imprisonment; to look after the welfare of conscripts; to bring more women into the leadership of SNYC; to set up a special civil liberties committee; to bring organized labor and the youth movement in the South closer together.

"Let us move forward in the struggle against war and for the right to vote. Let us move forward to the end that in our life time democracy will be won in this nation," said Ed Strong, executive secretary, in the keynote address.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Groups Gird For Battle On Poll Tax

APR 5 - 1941

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Three southern organizations this week took the drive to abolish the poll tax to the whole nation by initiating a campaign to have the week of May 11 to 17 observed as National Anti-Poll Tax Week from Maine to California.

The three initiating organizations, the Southern Negro Youth Congress, the Southern Conference for Human Welfare and the League of Young Southerners, issued a "Proclamation to the American People" calling upon "all liberty-loving Americans to join with us in the observance of National Anti-Poll Tax Week to the end that democracy in our country may be strengthened by restoring majority rule in the South."

APR 5 - 1941

Campaign headquarters to popularize observance of the week have been set up at 622 Masonic Temple bulding, Birmingham, Ala.

Birmingham, Ala. News
August 26, 1941

Roebuck Golf Course Refinancing Action Authorized By City

Saving On Interest Now Possible; Council For Defense Given Approval

Refinancing a balance of $83,000 still owed by the city on Roebuck golf course at a saving of 2 per cent in the interest rate, was authorized by resolution adopted by the City Commission Tuesday. The refinancing will be effective Oct. 1.

Papers show the city now owes the First National Bank $98.000 on the property. A payment of $15,000, it will explained, will be made Oct. 1 and the balance of $83,000 will be refinanced by the Birmingham Trust & Savings Company at 3 per cent interest. The city is now paying 5 per cent.

The agreement provides that the city will pay $15,000 a year on Oct. 1, each year until 1947, when it will pay the remaining $8,000.

Authority to set up a municipal defense council for Birmingham was provided in an ordinance adopted by the City Commission Tuesday. The ordinance authorizes a defense council of not to exceed 11 members to be appointed by the president of the City Commisison, who shall be chairmen of the defense council. A vice chairman will be the coordinator for the council. The ordinance provides that the defense council will cooperate with the county, state and national councils.

The commission readopted the budget under which it is operating this year, to serve until a new revised budget can be worked out after a survey now being made by the Public Administration Service, of Chicago, is completed late in September.

The budget carries estimated revenue of $3,352,330 for the general fund, $2,411,000 for the Board of Education, and $1,135,065 for the interest and sinking fund, which with several smaller items makes a total estimated revenue of $6,935,395. Appropriations of the general fund were set up at $3,349,270, while other appropriations were set at the amount of revenue estimates, making total appropriations $6,932,395.

It was explained that as soon as the survey is completed, a complete new budget will be made up.

Purchase of five motorcycles from the Gail Joyce Motor Company for $1,325 after an allowance of $1,200 for old machines was authorized by the City Commission.

A contract was awarded to Thomas C. Brasfield, for repairs to the City Hall at Pratt City at a cost of $1,062.

Esther V. Cooper, secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, appeared before the commission asking parks for Negroes. Mayor Green said commissioners had already received copies of the letter and said the city, through cooperation with the federal government and the Park Board, already provides several parks and play areas for Negroes.

W. H. White was granted a permit for a pool and billiard room at 2017 Avenue E. Ensley.

An expense account of Fire Chief Alf Brown, amounting to $55.25 for a trip to Edgewood Arsenal, Md., to attend the government warfare school, was approved and ordered paid.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

DR. PATTERSON ENDORSES SNYC ARMY PROGRAM

OCT 4 1941

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Oct. 2—On Wednesday, September 2, Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee institute and chairman of the Adult Advisory Board of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, discussed with Miss Esther Cooper, administrative secretary of the Youth Congress, campaigns which are being organized for the welfare of Negro youth in the South by the youth organization. Dr. Patterson stated that young men in the armed forces constitute the most important body of men in America today, and gave his support to the Army Welfare campaign which the Youth Congress is sponsoring.

Dr. Patterson, elected as chairman of the Adult Advisory Board at the fourth conference in New Orleans, has for over a year consulted with Youth Congress leaders on many of the campaigns which they conduct.

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla

The Threat to Civil Rghts

Quite recently members of the Southern Negro Youth Congress working with whites in the city of Birmingham, Alabama, circulating petitions in opposition to poll tax laws, were advised that the circulation of the petitions violated a city ordinance.

In these days of wild hysteria, when many of the American freedoms are being threatened it is fortunate that in Birmingham there are courageous editors who speak out in no uncertain terms against this threat to civil rights. The Black Dispatch is publishing below an article from the Southern News Almanac, under the caption, "It is the Law." Oklahoma readers should scan this article carefully because it so clearly exposes the threat to the fundamental right of petition.

In the Streeter Stuart case this young Oklahoma professor at Durant was penalized because he exercised the right of petition. Stuart merely wrote to his congressman, asking him not to vote for the selective draft law. In Oklahoma City there is a similar unconstitutional ordinance, such as complained of in Birmingham. For years this law has been enforced by the city council and had its genesis in newspaper publishers attempting to force people to use paid advertising instead of announcing with bills. Last year this principle in city government was developed to a point where Jehovah Witnesses were denied similar rights in presenting their religious views.

There follows the article reprinted from the Southern News Almanac:

CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS REQUIRE NO PERMITS

Can a city pass a law requiring its citizens to obtain permits at the City Hall in order to exercise their constitutional rghts?

A few days ago a group of Brmingham citizens circulated petitions on the streets. The petitions were addressed to Congressman Luther Patrick, asking his support for the Geyer Anti-Poll Tax Bill, now before Congress. More than 600 people signed these petitions in a few hours. Next day, a city official who refused to be quoted by name told newspapers that it is against the law in Birmingham to circulate a petition without a permit.

Freedom of petition is one of our basic constitutional rights, just like freedom of religion. It is one of the rights which our ancestors fought for in 1776 and which they sought to make permanent and secure by adoption of the Bill of Rights.

Yet, according to an anonymous city official, the people of Birmingham have already lost that right. That right, he says in effect, no longer exists in Birmingham. In its place there is a privilege of circulating petitions which the Police Department will from time to time confer on persons they deem worthy to exercise it—provided they approve of the petition.

It is no wonder that the official who made this statement is ashamed to come out in the open and make it in his own name, letting the people know who he is and what he stands for.

But what this city official says is not the law. The law is that a city ordinance which requires the people to obtain permits to exercise their civil rghts is unconstitutional and void. This principle has been set forth in two recent cases in the Supreme Court of the United States (Lovell vs. Griffin, 303 U. S. 444; Schneider vs. Irvington, 308 U. S. 147).

In the Lovell case, the Supreme Court emphasized that the essence of the constitutional guarantee is the right to do certain things without a permit. The case involved a Griffin, Georgia, city ordinance requiring a permit to distribute literature. The Court said:

"We think that the ordinance is invalid on its face."

"Whatever the motive which induced its adoption, its character is such that it strikes at the very foundation of the freedom of the press by subjecting it to license and censorship.

"The struggle for the freedom of the press was primarily directed against the power of the licensor. And the liberty of the press became initially a right to publish without a license what formerly could be published only with one."

Of course, laws which try to take away the civil rights of the people are always excused by their defenders as being "for the protection of the public." The "purpose" of the Birmingham ordinance, says the anonymous city official, is "to inquire into the nature of petitions so as to prevent fraudulent ones." Exactly the same argument was made in the Schneider case and received this answer from the U. S. Supreme Court:

"Conceding that fradulent appeals may be made in the name of charity and religion, we hold a municipality cannot, for this reason, require all who wish to disseminate ideas to present them first to police authorities for their consideration and approval.

"Frauds may be denounced as offenses and punished by law. If it is said that these means are le efficient and convenient than bestowal of power on police authorities to decide what information may be disseminated and who may impart the information, the answer is that considerations of this sort do not empower a municipality to abridge freedom of speech and press."

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Strong Demands Action On Jobs in 'Defense' Industries

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., June 20.—President Roosevelt was charged today with trying to "silence the mounting protests against discrimination" toward Negroes and Jews in defense industries by his recent letter on discrimination to OPM Associate Director Hillman.

In slashing comment upon the President's entire attitude toward racial minorities, Edward E. Strong, executive secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, accused Roosevelt of "playing with words" and of throwing a "sop" to win Negro support of the war. Strong's statement came after 150 prominent Negro leaders had signed a widely-circulated protest against American involvement in the war and as thousands of Negroes throughout the nation were planning to march on Washington, July 1, and to demand defense jobs. President Roosevelt spoke against discrimination only to still tremendous pressure from Negroes and progressive labor organizations, Strong intimated, saying that:

FORCED ON PRESIDENT

"The statement of President Roosevelt on Jim-Crowism comes very late and says, upon close analysis, very little. The significant fact about it is that at last the President has been forced to speak on this subject because of the growing unity of the Negro people in their struggle for jobs and against war and because of the ever increasing support from the progressive labor movement in this struggle

"The fact that the statement was issued proves that the organized power of the American people can defeat Jim-Crowism. From its contents, however, the statement of the President seems rather designed to silence the mounting protests against discrimination than to put an end to the practice of Jim-Crowism."

President Roosevelt, the government, and big business were linked together by Strong as maintaining the "widespread discrimination against the Negro and Jewish peoples in both defense production and all phases of life."

GOV'T JIM-CROW

Strong continued:

"In stating that our 'Government cannot countenance continued discrimination against American citizens in defense production,' the President completely exonerates the federal government for its official Jim-Crow policy in regard to the employment and treatemnt of the Negro people. The government gives the cue for policies of racial discrimination by refusing to enlist and train Negro personnel on an equal basis in the Navy and air corps, by establishing Jim-Crow conscription camps for Negro youth, by gross discrimination against Negro youth in NYA training centers, at West Point Annapolis, in fact, everywhere.

"The President has refused to recognize the equal responsibility that the government and he himself as chief administrator, must assume together with big business for the widespread discrimination against the Negro and Jewish people in both defense production and all phases of life."

Pointing out that President Roosevelt has used none of his emergency powers to end discrimination, Strong emphasizes however "that the emergency powers have been freely used—to break a strike in California.

"The Administration has assumed the prerogative to issue telegrams and ultimatums to labor groups throughout the country" while on the excuse of the Robin Moor incident, "steps are being taken which point toward open war with Germany," the Negro leader continued.

TAKE NO ACTION

Pointing out that "the President and his advisers and 'specialists' on Negro affairs do not have a single concrete proposal to end Jim-Crowism in the defense industries," Strong said:

"The President could have ordered the Office of Production Management to withhold government contracts from every firm that discriminates against Negroes. He could have had his leaders in Congress to push the passage of the Anti-Lynching Bill, the Geyer Anti-Poll Tax Bill and the Marcantonio Anti-Discrimination Bill. As commander in chief of the Army and Navy he could issue an executive order to end discrimination and segregation in the armed forces.

"The Negro people in this country have long ago passed the stage where they celebrate an rejoice over fine sounding phrases issued from the White House. Until the necessary and specific action to put an end to Jim-Crowism have been taken by the administration in Washington, Negro Americans will know that the President is merely playing with words.

"They will know that the President's major interest is to toss the Negro people a sop, while he attempts to sell them the idea of giving their lives once more in a war to preserve the colonies and wealth of Great Britain."

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Open Southern Drive for Negro Troops' Welfare

To Conduct Collections, Hold Mass Meetings and Entertainment

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Sept. 29.—An Army Welfare program was initiated by a group of Birmingham civic leaders last Friday at a meeting held in the Y.W.C.A. The Committee, which is making specific plans for assistance to Negro soldiers, elected Rev. J. C. Perry, pastor of St. Marks Episcopal Church, temporary chairman.

A collection drive for gifts for the soldiers, supplying them with such things as shaving cream, soap and cigarettes, was planned on the suggestion of Louis Burnham, organizational secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress.

YOUTH PARTICIPATE

An Army Welfare Week was set for October 12-18, during which period the collection campaign will reach its heights and mass meetings and entertainments for the soldiers will be held in Birmingham.

Voting to extend the Army Welfare Program to other cities throughout the South, the Committee announced that a delegation will soon visit the army camp near Anniston.

Participation of the Southern Negro Youth Congress in this and similar activities to aid the soldiers and strengthen America's defense against Hitlerism is winning wide support throughout the South. In a letter last week to Brigadier-General Osborne, Mr. Burnham urged that "frequent and regular bulletins on an inter-cultural and inter-racial basis be distributed to both Negro and white soldiers."

Mr. Burnham also suggested that another step which would help to break down the jim-crow prejudice in the army would be to establish soldier welfare committees in the camps composed of soldiers of both races.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

YOUTH GROUP CALLS FOR NEGROES ON U. S. O. BOARDS

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Oct. 2—In a letter signed by its Organizational Secretary, Louis E. Burnham, the Southern Negro Youth Congress called to the attention of the United Service Organizations for National Defense the fact that, "in some South n communities—such as Jefferson County, Ala.,—divisions of the U. S. O., in launching their campaigns have neglected to include outstanding Negro citizens as members of their various boards and committees. The letter, addressed to Mr. Walter Hoving, National President of the U. S. O., stated that, "it is to be hoped that your office will seek to correct this situation wherever it is found to exist."

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

RACE ISMS SCORED AT YOUTH MEETING

Southern Young People Confab Studies Methods to Defeat Hitler Abroad and KKKism at Home—Adopts Program.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Oct. 2—Declaring that "Eevery blow against Hitler is a blow to discrimination, jim crowism, lynching and votelessness in the South," Miss Esther Cooper opened the National Council meeting of the Southern Negro Youth Congress on Sunday. "In this momentous period of world history," continued Miss Cooper, "there is a binding solidarity existing between the youth of the South and all democracy loving peoples. We have always been opposed to Fascism in whatever form it occurs. Hitlerism and its Aryan theories of racial superiority gives comfort and courage to KKK ism everywhere. Today it is clear that only through the military defeat of Hitler can be achieved the conditions for crushing Fascism and world reaction at its roots."

CITES RACE LOYALTY

More than 50 delegates from the state of Texas, Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana took part in the discussion following the report. On the basis that the main problem facing the Negro youth of the South today are: "How shall we rally for the defeat of Hitler abroad and KKK ism at home?" Delegates set about outlining a program of activity for the coming months.

In addition to the plans for the continuation of the jobs and suffrage campaigns, the congress plans to launch an army welfare program. Citing the continued loyalty of our boys who have been called to defend democracy, delegates agreed to initiate a southernwide campaign for gifts to the boys at camp and for increasing the recreational facilities at the army camps.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

FDR Asked To Create New Agency At Once

Southern Congress Scores Share Cropping

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—In identical letters to President Roosevelt and Secretary of Agriculture Wickard, this week the Southern Negro Youth Congress urged that: "in the present emergency an agency of the government be established to investigate and penalize all acts which limit full participation of Negro farmers in benefits of the government's agricultural program."

FOOD ESSENTIAL

Pointing out that success of the program to make food a weapon of democracy requires giving the Negro farmer the "same assurances established for the Negro industrial worker by the President's recent Executive Order and the establishment of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, the letter urged that a similar biracial body be set up to act in the field of agriculture."

In the meantime, young people here are making preparations to attend the National Conference of Negro Youth which meets in Washington, D. C., November 14, 15, and 16th. At the meeting of its National Council in September, The Southern Negro Youth Congress voted to support the Conference.

The initiating committee for the National Conference has stressed the fact that the influence of the meeting will depend on the number and representation from the youth of the South.

SOUTHERN SPONSORS

Adult sponsors from the South include President John M. Gandy of Virginia State College, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, Hartford Knight of the United Mine Workers, President Benjamin Mays, Morehouse College, Miss Viola Hilliard, Hattiesburg, Miss., and Roscoe Dunjee, Editor of the Oklahoma Black Dispatch.

Other sponsors include Miss Elsie Austin, national head, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Aaron Douglass, artist, Duke Ellington.

Also Dr. Channing Tobias, Young Men's Christian Association, Prof. Doxey A. Wilkerson, Howard University, Dr. Max Yergan, director International Committee on African Affairs, Miss Carnella Jamison, general secretary of Negro Organizations, United Christian Missionary Society.

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Breakdown of Civil Rights In Memphis Area Brought to Attention of The President

Prominent Negroes Over the Nation Join In Attempt to End Reign of Terror

Ed Crump's Machine Rapped

FEB 15 1941

BIRMINGHAM.—(ANP)—Prominent Southern Negroes joined with the Southern Negro Youth Congress this week in a letter to President Roosevelt seeking for an investigation of Memphis and for the federal government to take immediate steps to safeguard the lives, liberties, and property of Negro people there.

Among those who signed the statement to the President included William J. Faulkner, Fisk university; President David D. Jones on Bennett college, Greensboro, N. C.; Dr. Alain Locke, Howard university; Carleton L. Lee, southern Hi-Y secretary, Atlanta; Rev. DeWitt S. Dykes, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Dr. J. F. Watson, San Antonio, Texas; John M. Gandy, president Virginia State college; Hartford Knight, UMWA, Birmingham; Carter W. Wesley, Informer Publishing Co., Houston, Texas, and Rev. William P. Mitchell of Tulsa, Okla.

The statement to the President on the suspension of civil liberties in Memphis said in part: "Since the November elections there has been in Memphis an unremitting wave of intimidation and acts of terror against the Negro citizens of this city on the part of the police force, inspired by Commissioner of Police Joseph P. Boyle, by Mayor Chandler, and by Democratic National committeeman and political boss of Shelby county, Edward Crump. This attack upon the Negro citizens of Memphis, who constitute something more than a third of the population of the city, has come as a political reprisal against a section of the Negro electorate who refused to abide by the dictates of the Crump machine and voted for candidates of their choice.

FEB 15 1941

"America has no place for a fuhrer and an unscrupulous municipal dictatorship such as the Crump machine in Memphis is attempting to establish. All citizens must be protected in their liberties as guaranteed by the bill of rights of our constitution. The officials of Memphis and the political machine of Ed Crump stand guilty of abrogating the right guaranteed to American citizens under the constitution, the right of assembly, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, right of private property, and security from arbitrary power.

"In these days of international insecurity, with ravenous wars engulfing whole continents, when the rights of man are being scrapped in the warring nations, we Americans are bequethed the task of guarding ever more zealously that character of freedom upon which our system of democracy is based. The recent acts of political tyranny in Memphis menace our democratic institutions. Our government cannot permit such grievous wrong to afflict our body politic. It is the responsibility of the federal government to make a formal declaration of freedom contained in our bill of rights become a living reality for all Americans.

"With love of liberty and with deep concern for the fate of Civil Liberties in our country, we, the undersigned, call upon the President to direct a federal investigation of the totalitarian political regime which has annulled the civil and political rights of the citizens of Memphis and to immediately use the authority of the federal government to take the necessary steps to safeguard the lives, liberties, and property of the Negro people in Memphis."

Southern News Almanac
Birmingham, Ala.

Youth Leaders Attend Meeting

MAR 1 31941

Birmingham Groups Hear U. S. And World Youth Officials

Over 50 Birmingham young people, members of the League of Young Southerners and the Southern Negro Youth Congress, were hosts to Frances Williams, executive secretary of the American Youth Congress, and Helen Simon of the World Youth Congress at a conference here last week.

Miss Williams told of her experiences during a recent visit to Cuba. The economy of Cuba is owned by American millionaires, Miss Williams stated, and Wall Street is using its economic position to bring pressure on the Cuban government, trying to subject this small country to complete political control by the United States. The Cuban radio network, she related, was afraid to carry a declaration against war by the American Youth Congress. Any statement against war is regarded in Cuba as a criticism of President Roosevelt's policies, the radio manager told her, and Cuban radio stations are not allowed to broadcast anything which is critical of Roosevelt.

MAR 1 31941

Mrs. Simon told of the activities of the youth movement in Czechoslovakia, struggling against German domination of their country, in India, struggling against British domination, in other parts of the world, and of the cooperation of the youth movements in various countries through the World Youth Congress.

After answering questions, Miss Williams and Mrs. Simon requested their young Birmingham hosts to tell them about the problems and activities of youth in the South. Among those who spoke were Sidney Rittenberg, Pauline Thomas and Gerald Harris, Jr., of the League of Young Southerners, Edward Strong, Mrs. Stahlworth and Ethel Lee Goodman of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, Geraldine Tongue of the colored Y. W. C. A. and John Hall of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee. Plans were made to strengthen the cooperation of Southern youth, worker and farmer, Negro and white, and of cooperation of Southern youth with the youth movement in other parts of the nation through the American Youth Congress.

Southern News Almanac
Birmingham, Ala.

Negro Youth Urged To Aid Peace Drive

On Sunday, June 1, the Boothton Council of the Southern Negro Youth Congress held an introductory meeting to Boothton citizens.

JUN 5 1941

Present were national officers from the Southern Negro Youth Congress, Miss Esther Cooper, administrative secretary; Henry Mayfield, vice-chairman; Pernell Collins, director of culture.

Miss Cooper discussed organizational problems and conscription of women. She urged the Council to set up an anti-women's conscription committee. By doing this, she said, the rights won by trade unions would be protected from enforced labor of women.

Henry Mayfield spoke on peace and urged support of the American Peace Mobilization in the fight against convoys and aid to Britain.

Also present were: William Conner and Anna K. Lee, representing the League of Young Southerners. They stressed the unity between Negro and white youths in the struggle to solve mutual problems.

About 75 people were present, Negro and white. The meeting was composed mostly of young people but there were also present the community's ministers and a large section of United Mine Workers.

JUN 5 1941

Projects they decided to work on were: circulation of Cavalcade, official organ of S. N. Y. C., circulation of anti-convoy petitions and the right to vote campaign.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Youth Leader At Meeting In Mexico City

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Miss Esther V. Cooper, administrative secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, went to Mexico City, where she attended the meeting of a committee which made final arrangements for an International Youth Conference to be held early in 1942.

JUN 8 1941

The planning meeting brought together leading figures of the youth movements of Cuba, Panama, the West Indies, South America, Canada and the United States.

The five representatives chosen from the United States were: John W. Darr, Jr., of the administrative Committee, National Intercollegiate Christian Council; Miss Frances M. Williams, Executive Secretary of the American Youth Congress; a young trade union member; a delegate from a Jewish youth organization, and Miss Cooper. Miss Cooper, who was the only Negro delegate from the United States, will be the official representative of the Southern Negro Youth Congress.

Miss Cooper is a student of social and economic problems. She is a graduate of Oberlin Colleeg and received her Master's degree from Fisk University. For the past year she has served as Administrative Secretary for the Southern Negro Youth Congress.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

YOUTH OPENS LEGISLATURE IN ALABAMA

MAR 29 1941

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Mar. 27—Unlike the usual annual conference of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, the next national conference will take the form of an Alabama Youth Legislature, which was provided for during the last annual conference of the S. N. Y. C. The seat of the Youth Legislature Assembly will be in the industrial community of Ensley, Ala.

The Alabama Youth Legislature will open Friday evening, March 28, at 7:30 p. m. with a public session and will adjourn Sunday evening, March 30, at 5:30 p. m.

Preparation for the State Youth Legislature is being carried on under the auspices of the Jefferson County Youth Federation. Officers are: Robert Moore, secretary; Frank Fancher, chairman; Thomas Smelley, co-chairman; Mrs. Willie Mae Bell, treasurer; Robert Randolph Wilson, chairman, Publicity and Contact committee; Mrs. Helen Moore, chairman, Housing committee; Mrs. Addie Kate Stallworth, chairman, Cultural committee; John Hall, chairman, Labor Committee; James Dossie, chairman, Finance committee; Miss Ethel Lee Goodman, chairman, Rural committee; and Henry O. Mayfield, chairman, General Arangements committee.

The Daily Worker
New York. N. Y.

Southern Negro Youth Back UMW Wage Fight

MAR 22 1941

Council Endorses Union Demand to Abolish Pay Differentials

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., March 21—Enthisiastic support of the demand of the United Mine Workers for the abolition of the Southern wage differential was voted by the National Councill of the Southern Negro Youth Congress in session in Birmingham last Sunday, it was revealed today.

The council endorsed a letter written by Executive Secretary Edward E. Strong to Hartford Knight, district representative of the miners' union, in which Mr. Strong pledged support to the miners in their pending negotiations for an improved contract. The national body further voted to instruct the national leadership and the labor committee of the SNYC to work out jointly with the UMWA concrete plans for collaboration and support.

The wage differential, under which Southern workers are paid from 20 to 50 per cent less than Northern workers for the same job, was scathingly attacked by several representatives of the labor committee, including Henry Mayfield of the United Mine Workers, John Hall of the Packinghouse Workers and Oscar Roberts of the SWOC.

WAGE DIFFERENTIALS

MAR 22 1941

It was pointed out that in coal mines in the Birmingham area, outside workers received only $3.50 a day. Minimum common labor scales inside the mines set $4 a day. The speakers compared this with the $6 a day basic wage received in Northern mines.

"The coal miners are not fooled by the claims of the mine owners that it costs less to live in the South," said Henry Mayfield. "It costs just as much to live here as it does in the North. And we have just as many children to feed."

James E. Jackson, Jr., vice-chairman for Virginia, called attention to the rising costs of living, saying that from the beginning of 1940 prices have advanced 14 per cent as compared with a four per cent rise in all wages. He contrasted this with the huge profits of the corporations.

MAR 22 1941

Executive Secretary Strong praised John L. Lewis for his support of the poll tax fight.

Southern News
Almanac
Birmingham, Ala.

Southerners Going To People's Meeting

MAR 27 1941

LARGE DELEGATIONS TO BE AMONG 25,000 AT APM APRIL 5TH AND 6TH

No amount of poll taxes are going to deprive the Southern people of their voice for peace, a check of prospective Dixie representation at the American People's Meetin gin New York next week shows.

The meeting, sponsored by the American Peace Mobilization, will reach its climax on April 6. It is supported by hundreds of labor and farm organizations (it has the official and full endorsement of the Farmers Educational Union in addition to many other local farm groups. Twenty-five thousand delegates from over the country is set as the minimum figure by APM leaders.

As to Dixie representation, it appeared assured that between 50 and 100 delegates would attend from Alabama alone.

Geralid Harris, of the Alabama Farmers Union will head one group of at least six. Farmers have an extra reason for supporting APM: war to them would mean the devastating blow of inflation.

Ore miners, whose union president, Reid Robinson is one of the sponsors of APM, will send several delegates.

Large delegations will represent both the Council of Young Southerners, headed by Sidney Rittenberg of Birmingham, and the Southern Negro Youth Congress, headed by Edward E. Strong.

The National Maritime Union in Mobile has promised to send delegates.

MAR 27 1941

At least another score delegates will represent the Carolinas-Virginia Conference on Workers' Education, which represents more than a hundred A. F. of L. and C. I.O. uinions in the three states.

MAR 27 1941

Arkansas Support

Meeting jointly in Hope, Ark. last week representatives of 8,000 A. F. of L. and C. I. O. unions voted support of the APM meeting, while in Tennessee the Tennessee Commonwealth Federation, whose executive committee met in Nashville declared its full support for APM's program of defense of labor rights from war hysterics and for protection of the people's standard of living against war profiteering.

The Arkansts Anti-Poll Tax Council, with nearly 3,000 active members, voted full support.

And mention of Southern representation at APM is not complete without including the fact that APM's president is the Rev. John B. Thompson of Norman, Okla., who is, of course, also a Southerner.

CAN STAND MOVING IF GRANDSONS ARE KEPT OUT OF WAR

Mrs. Cornelia Adkinson and her ancestors have lived in the Holston River valley of Tennessee for over 100 years. Her place will soon be flooded by a hydro-electric development. All of Mrs. Adkinson's memories—and she is getting old—are wrapped up in this scene. Her folks first settled there along with Daniel Boone but she said "It is all right if it will keep my grandsons from going to war."

Southern News
Almanac
Birmingham, Ala.

LEGISLATURE WILL BE HELD BY YOUTH

MAR 27 1941

Unusual Meeting Opens In Ensley Friday At 7:30

The Alabama Youth Legislature will convene at Ensley Hall, 304½ Nineteenth Street, Ensley, Alabama, March 28, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting is sponsored by the Southern Negro Youth Congress.

As nearly as possible the Youth Legislature will be fashioned after the Alabama state legislature in Montgomery. Committees will be appointed and the general legislative machinery will be set up.

The Youth Legislature will be different from most other legislatures in the country in that it will be concerned with problems of the people. It will discuss ways and means of using national resources, national manpower and national technilogical development for the benefit of the broad masses of the people. Delegates from numerous communities in the state and from outside the state are expected to attend.

MAR 27 1941

Meetings will adjourn at 5 p.m. March 30. Full information may be had by applying to Southern Negro Youth Congress, 624 Masonic Temple Building, Birmingham Alabama, phone 3-2448.

41-1941
Southern News
almanac
Birmingham, Ala.

S.N.Y.C.

YOUTH LEGISLATURE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERS PEOPLE'S PROBLEMS

150 Delegates From Churches, Trade Unions, Youth Clubs Attend First Annual Session

Looked upon as a new milestone in the people's march toward truly democratic government, the first session of the Alabama Youth Legislature was held here this week-end in the Ensley CIO Hall. Large crowds attended every sessions.

The meeting was called to prove three outstanding things: (1) The people themselves are their own best legislators. (2) Poll-Tax elected and Wall Street dominated representatives in state legislatures and in the United States Congress do not represent the people. (3) Real people's representatives in state and national governments would concern themselves with and would pass laws to promote the interests of farmers, wage workers, the unemployed and would take care of the needs of the schools, the aged, the sick, and the young people.

It was declared that the Roosevelt administration, the Republican administrations before it, and the Republicans now actively cooperating with the Democratic administration have not solved and have no hope of solving the people's pressing problems. "Therefore," says a resolution unanimously passed by the legislature, "it becomes the right and duty of the people to form such new political force or combination as will solve the burning problem of the people."

PEOPLE'S WORRIES

Showing the closeness of this purely people's meeting to the people, the chief worries of the broad masses dominated the whole proceeding: jobs, health, civil liberties, education, housing, rights of labor, government aid to farmers, and a strong, ringing protest against war. Sample laws were enacted providing state funds for a large number of dental and maternal care clinics; for longer school terms and absolutely free text books; for regulation of rents; a state wage-hour law.

Memorials were sent to Congress demanding funds to provide jobs for four million jobless youth; to protect the interests of the family size farm; to guarantee sharecroppers and other farm laborers the right to organize and bargain collectively; to prevent every effort to limit labor's right to organize and strike.

Special memorials were sent demanding passage of the Geyer anti-poll tax bill and the enactment of the federal anti-lynch law.

Every sample bill passed guarded against discrimination on account of creed or color.

AGAINST WAR

The anti-war resolution provided for a change in foreign policy. It proposed turning squarely away from meddling in the affairs of warring nations and directing the government's attention to actual national defense and defense of the interests of the unemployed, the underpaid, wage laborer, and the struggling farmer.

The meeting was sponsored by the national office of the Southern Negro Youth Congress at Birmingham. About 150 Negro and white delegates, elected from trade unions, churches, city and farm youth clubs, worked together. As nearly as possible the legislature was carried out on the exact pattern of the Alabama state legislature, and according to the general procedure of the United States Congress.

The sobriety, careful and intelligent attention given to proposed bills in the youth legislature, were in sharp contrast to the political horsetrading, social events, drinking and poker playing that accompanies the deliberations of official legislatures.

In the keynote address Mrs. Augusta Strong outlined two kinds of "Americanism," and two kinds of "civilization." The first she described as "votelessness, lynching, police terror against Negroes, scab labor, low wages, and destruction of our youth on battle fields." The second kind was described as leading to "peace, freedom, and real democracy for the common people."

"The first kind is already with us," she said. "The second we must fight to attain."

HITS STARNES

Virgil Moncrief, member of United Mine Workers and leader in the League of Young Southerners at the Hamilton Slope Local, spoke in the opening session condemning Joe Starnes, Alabama Congressman and others who are failing to represent the people. Mr. Moncrief said we will have better conditions when men from the farms and factories are elected to Congress and state legislatures to enact laws for the people; to do this the working people have got to be organized and have got to stick together 100 per cent, Negro and white wage-workers and farmers.

"Let us turn away from our easy and dangerous methods of depending upon great men in the White House and in the Halls of Congress," said Dr. James Jaackson in the closing session. "The vital government needs of the people must be put into the hands of real people's representatives."

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Group Fights To Save Units

Appeals to President Roosevelt Not To Discontinue Work

Taking issue with the appeasement forces in Congress that are working to abolish the National Youth Administration, the American Youth Congress in a statement issued October 25 from its national office at 230 Fifth Ave., called upon American young people to rally and support the demand of President Roosevelt that the National Youth Administration be continued and expanded to train young people for integration into the defense program.

Pointing out that "if America is to reach the point of maximum production, if we are to outproduce the Hitler machine, the skill, energy, and productive capacity of the millions of youth still not gainfully employed must be utilized," the statement called for the "immediate coordination of all youth training agencies, such as the National Youth Administration, the CCC, the defense training courses, State vocational programs, and within the coordination a vastly expanded National Youth Administration program."

"The American Youth Congress views with great alarm," the statement continues, "present efforts to seriously, if not entirely curtail, the NYA program, at a time when it is more needed than ever before. These who attack the proposed budget of the NYA under the pretext of eliminating "non-defense items" are actually handicapping a maximum defense effort, and, in effect, falling prey to the game of the appeasers, who seek to undermine a total defense for America.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Ala. Youth Legislature Ponders True Democracy

APR 12 1941

ENSLEY, Ala. — For the first time since Reconstruction, the people of Alabama met in a legislative assembly to discuss the problems facing the common people of the state and to vote upon methods for bringing democracy to the Southland.

The Alabama Youth Legislature called by the Southern Negro Youth Congress met here in the C.I.O. hall in a three day session, March 28-30.

Here were representatives from the mines, the mills, the schools, the churches, the rural areas of both races, discussing with a political maturity legislative laws that put to shame the corrupt legislature in Montgomery and the Congress of the United States.

APR 12 1941

Virgil Moncrief, white, United Mine Worker, called for the unity of Negroes and white people in Alabama to take America out of the imperialist war and to guarantee that the right of workers to strike is not taken away from them.

Louise Sims of Tuskegee institute, pointed out in the student session that in this period of so-called national crisis, the rights of students are being taken away, that academic freedom has become meaningless.

She called upon all students to "Join with the SNYC, the League of Young Southerners, to support the organized labor movement if we as students want to insure our own freedom." Irving Rappapart of the University of Alabama seconded her on this statement, telling of the attempts to intimidate the Peace council on his campus.

Matilda Pollard, domestic worker, of Millbrook, Ala., told of the condition in the rural schools and what the SNYC club there was doing on the proposed library project.

Many of the delegates told about the condition in the camps for the conscripts, and particularly treatment of the Negro conscripts. Plans were made to visit the camps, to give protest mass meetings on the condition in the camps, and to follow up all cases of discrimination in the armed forces.

APR 12 1941

James Jackson of the Southern Negro Youth Congress read to the assembly the Declaration on Political Outlook which was adopted

This declaration said in part, "We Southerners, Negro and white, shall win the ballot, and in concert with the common people of all America shall use it to make our country great by making democracy real. The Negro people following the lead of labor and in alliance with the poor farmers shall advance onto the political field as an independent force of the common people to the end that a rebirth of democratic government representing the true interests of the plain for democracy, security, prosperity, and peace shall replace the present deadly combination of un-principled poll-tax politicians and economic royalists."

APR 12 1941

Esther Cooper, administrative secretary of the SNYC, in closing the Alabama Youth Legislature, said, "We must go back to our respective communities, take these resolutions that we have voted upon to all of the people that we can reach . . . in spite of the rising tide of war hysteria which is running rampant in the country; we the youth can drown out this hysteria with our demands for jobs, security and peace."

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Youth Confab In Alabama Seek Real Democracy

APR 18 1941

ENSLEY, Ala. — (ANP) — "We southerners, Negro and White, shall win the ballot, and in concert with the common people of all America, shall use it to make our country great by making democracy real," reads the concluding paragraph of the resolutions adopted by the Alabama Youth legislature at its peace session of the three day conference called by the Southern Negro Youth congress, March 28-30.

Meeting in the C. I. O. hall of this city, representatives from mines, mills, schools, churches, rural areas, Negro and White, discussed with political maturity the meaning and interpretation of legislative acts, spoke of the problems facing the common people of the state and voted upon methods for bringing democracy to the southland.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Southern Youth Parley Maps Campaign For Rights

APR 19 1941

APR 19 1941

ENSLEY, Ala., April 17. (ANP) —"We Southerners, Negro and white, shall win the ballot, and in concert with the common people of all America, shall use it to make our country great by making democracy real," reads the concluding paragraph of the resolutions adopted by the Alabama Youth legislature at its peace session of the three-day conference called by the Southern Negro Youth Congress, March 28-30.

Meeting in the C.I.O. hall of this city, representatives from mines, mills, schools, churches, rural areas, Negro and white, discussed with political maturity the meaning and interpretation of legislative acts, spoke of the problems facing the common people of the state and voted upon methods for bringing democracy to the Southland.

APR 19 1941

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
April 24, 1941

NEGROES WILL CHOOSE OUTSTANDING CITIZENS

Nominations for the outstanding young Negro man and woman of 1940, who "contributed most to the community and civic betterment among the Negro group," are being received daily by the nominating committee, Albert F. Seay, chairman, said yesterday.

The event at which the winners will be announced is being sponsored by the music department of Booker T. Washington High school. The final selection will be made known Monday night at an "achievement ball," to be held in the Wigwam, on East Ninth street.

This is the second such affair conducted by the colored citizens. Last year Prof. Seay, Joseph E. Smith Elementary school teacher, and former president of the local council of the Southern Negro Youth congress, was chosen for outstanding achievement in 1939.

Clubs, civic organizations, schools, churches and other organizations which have nominees are urged to turn names in immediately to any member of the committee. The committee is composed of Chairman Seay, Prof. T. D. Upshaw, Jr., Jennie Mondul, Gertrude Warren and F. S. Mitchell.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

HEMISPHERE SOLIDARITY STRESSED AT

Southern News Almanac
Birmingham, Ala.

TRUE DEMOCRACY MUST BE PUT IN PRACTICE

MAY 1 - 1941

Dear Editor:

As a member of the Atlanta Federation of Southern Negro Youth Congress, I am writing you in behalf of this organization of conscious Negro Youths, who fully realize the crisis that is now pressing our country.

We are proud of your paper, and every member of this Federation has subscribed to it. Then too, we are urging others to read it and see for themselves what the "Big Time Wall Street Politicians" are doing. We the people must cooperate in order that we may accomplish the things which our fore-fathers and mothers fought for.

One of the greatest problems of today is the racial and economical problems of both white and colored races, when we are able to find the solution to these particular ones, then we have the key to them all.

What has happened to TRUE DEMOCRACY? Does every one believe in TRUE DEMOCRACY? NO! yet, they will preach it but flatly refuse to practice what they preach. As a Negro does TRUE DEMOCRACY deny me the opportunity to vote, the right of Free Speech, the right of Equal pay, the right of holding office or being on the petit jury, the right of justice in the courts, and last but not least the right to be protected against such dastardly things as LYNCHING. No! TRUE DEMOCRACY says that I too have a right to these things regardless of race creed or color. "A House Divided Cannot Stand," then truly if a house divided cannot stand, a Government of people divided Will Not Stand. Practice TRUE DEMOCRACY and we shall be one nation indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

MAY 1 - 1941

Wishing you and your co-workers the best of luck, I remain,

Very truly yours,
WILLIAM F. HAWKINS, JR.
Secretary,
Atlanta, Ga.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Smash Hitler

SEP 16 1941

Buttons in Birmingham are selling fast. Miss Annie Mae Echols, member of the Birmingham Negro Youth Federation, is shown above, selling her stock of buttons on a busy downtown street. Both Negroes and whites in this Alabama industrial city are uniting behind the struggle to "Smash Hitler."

YOUTH MEET

BIRMINGHAM, Nov. 13—Returning from a two-week trip to Mexico City, Miss Esther V. Cooper, Administrative Secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress reported that "Youth throughout the Hemisphere are organizing — and organizing fast—to help defeat Hitlerism." Miss Cooper was one of four United States representatives who attended an International Youth Planning Conference in Mexico City from October 25th to 27th. Other delegates from the U. S. were: Frances Williams and Marie Reed of the American Youth Congress; John Darr of the National Intercollegiate Christian Council; Della Davis of the Industrial Girls' Division of the YWCA. Twenty-five young people represented Latin American youth organizations.

The conference decided on a plan of immediate action which included the following: a Christmas Week of Sacrifice for the Fighting Armies; raising thousands of dollars and sending medical supplies, cigarettes and clothes for youth in Britain, Soviet Russia and China; organizing a large international anti-Hitler youth conference in the near future.

NOV 15 1941

While in Mexico City Miss Cooper was escorted to many points of interest by Mr. Alvin Jones, a Southern Negro Youth Congress member from New Orleans who is studying art there on a Rosenwald fellowship. The delegates had an opportunity to meet many government officials, and hold an interesting interview with Vincente Lombardi Toledano, Head of the Federation of Latin American Workers.

Nation
New York, N. Y.

Youth Defends Democracy

Dear Sirs: Last January a group of students from ten colleges met in New York City to talk over ways and means of building democracy in America and saving it in Europe and the Far East. Out of these discussions grew the Student Defenders of Democracy, with headquarters at 8 West Fortieth Street, New York. The organization now has members on some 150 campuses and active chapters on about 30. At the rate of present additions, it will probably have between 3,000 and 5,000 dues-paying members next fall. This would make the S. D. D. the largest political student group in the country.

MAY 31 1941

It publishes a student newspaper, *SOS;* it is engaged in a drive to win one million signatures to a petition favoring convoys; it has launched a drive among students in favor of labor rights and against the Vinson bill; it is campaigning in behalf of the "Student Bill of Rights" drawn up by the Academic Freedom Committee of the A. C. L. U.; and it is publishing a series of folders on current topics known as the "Freedom First" series.

Probably the S. D. D. received widest recognition when some fifteen of its high-school members braved a hostile pro-Nazi crowd at a New York meeting of the America First Committee. Their signs were torn, their literature was taken away, and many were beaten. These students were orderly, but they did not run away, and they did not consider it "beneath their dignity" to picket.

MAY 31 1941

Because the S. D. D. believes in democracy and does not coerce those of its members who do not always agree with the majority, it has a real chance of becoming a lasting force in American student life. But it is necessary for it to raise a budget of $15,000 a year.

ROBERT G. SPIVACK

41-1941

VIRGINIA

Richmond, Va. News-Leader
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Price Backs Negroes' Plan

Defense Steps Get Support of Governor

Governor Price has endorsed the program and objectives of the Democracy Defense League for Negro youth, it was announced today by Rev. Augustus McHerrin, founder and president of the organization. The Governor's endorsement was contained in a letter to the minister.

That the organization, which stresses the importance of Negro support for all efforts in defense of democracy, is regarded as a valuable movement is indicated by the endorsement of other leaders in government and education among whom are Mayor Ambler, City School Superintendent J. H. Binford, Henrico County Superintendent C. K. Holsinger and Robert T. Barton, Jr., of the State defense organization.

In his letter to Mr. McHerrin, Governor Price wrote: "I am informed that the Democracy Defense League for Negro Youth, organized by the Rev. Augustus McHerrin, proposes a continuing program in the public schools to teach the meaning, value and operations of American democracy.

"It is important that our Negro citizens and minority groups, who may be susceptible to propaganda by the enemies of democracy and of the American way of life, should be thoroughly grounded in the principles and value of democracy.

"I, therefore, have pleasure in commending this league for its efforts towards the promotion of these objectives."

Negro leaders also have endorsed the league. After listening to the league's patriotic exercises adopted for jublic schools recently, the Negro Baptist Ministers Conference of Richmond and vicinity endorsed the organization. Principal James E. Segear, of the Maggie L. Walker High School, Principal Oscar A. Morton, of Moore Street School, Principal John L. Nixon, of Buchanan School, William Fox of Booker T. Washington School, David R. Cross of the Navy Hill School, and others at the Dunbar School, Armstrong High School, George Mason School and the Baker School have expressed interest in the league's program.

Mr. McHerrin also announced the league will conduct a thirty-day financial campaign beginning May 1 to raise the budget for the first year's work. Speaking of the need of funds, Mr. McHerrin said during May league workers must contact public schools in the Richmond area with the permission of superintendents and the defense campaign will be carried to other sections of the State as speedily as possible. The league is especially anxious to participate in annual count yschool exhibits and commencements.

Officers of the league, with Mr. McHerrin as president, are Roscoe C. Mitchell, vice president; Thomas L. Dabney, secretary, and Roland D. Faley, treasurer. The league maintains headquarters at 119 East Leigh Street.